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PULPIT AND PARISH MANUAL

WITH
Orders of Worship, Prayers, and
Other Aids to Devotion

PREPARED BY
Henry Hallam Saunderson

THE PILGRIM PRESS
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PULPIT AND PARISH MANUAL

FOREWORD

THE major purpose of this book is indicated by the three sections in which the material is arranged.

Section I. **PUBLIC WORSHIP.** Nearly all modern church hymnals contain **Responsive Readings**, but many ministers desire other worship material for the enrichment of the service. With the **PULPIT AND PARISH MANUAL**, and the **Responsive Readings** in a good modern hymnal, a minister may build up services of public worship to meet the needs of his congregation. The wealth of material provided in this book will enable him to make his services beautiful and stately and, from Sunday to Sunday, to give variety to them.

Section II. **OCCASIONAL SERVICES.** Here are dignified services for baptism, reception of members, the Lord's supper, marriage, consecration of a home, ordination or installation of a minister, and consecration of a teacher. These, of course, may be used just as printed, or may be changed as any minister may desire. They may be used as guides for these important services while permitting freedom in their use.

Section III. **FUNERAL SERVICES.** Most pastors of churches find that funerals test their resources more severely than any other one duty of their sacred office.

FOREWORD

A great variety of material is provided, suitable for the varied circumstances of funerals. Great care has been taken in associating poetry and scripture on many themes, so that these materials shall be in harmony. The poets have rendered a priceless service to religion in giving beautiful and convincing expression to the hope of immortality.

In compiling this book, sources ancient and modern have been drawn upon, and material new and hitherto unpublished has been included. Many expressions of faith are always new because they never can grow old. Therefore all of the material in this book is vital and timely. Modern ministers will find this book a useful companion in the varied duties of their ministry.

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SECTION I
PUBLIC WORSHIP

CALLS TO WORSHIP

I. The Rock of My Strength

MY soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength and my refuge is in God. Trust in him at all times. Ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.

Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? He hath showed thee, O man, what is good: and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Let us pray:

O GOD, who art the great deep of eternal peace and the fountain of all blessings, who ever sendest peace to those that are ready to receive it: open to us this day the sea of thy love, and water us with plentiful streams from the riches of thy grace. Make us children of quietness and heirs of peace. Enkindle in us the fire of thy love; strengthen our weakness by thy power; bind us closely to thee and to each other in one firm bond of unity. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

2. A Morning Prayer

GIVE ear to my words, O Lord; consider my meditation. Harken unto the voice of my cry, my King and my God: for unto thee will I pray. My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord: in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up. As for me I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy; and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple. For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favor wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Let us pray:

O LORD our God, who hast bidden the light to shine out of darkness, who hast again awakened us to praise thy goodness and ask for thy grace: accept now, in thy endless mercy, the sacrifice of our worship and thanksgiving, and grant unto us all such requests as may be wholesome for us. Make us to be children of the light and of the day, and heirs of thy everlasting inheritance. Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of thy mercies, thy whole Church; all who join with us in prayer; all our brethren by land or sea, or wherever they may be in thy vast kingdom, who stand in need of thy grace and succor. Pour out upon all the riches of thy mercy, so that we, redeemed in soul and body, and steadfast in faith, may ever praise thy wonderful and holy name. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

3. Beginning the Day

HOW amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee.

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

4. The Divine Shepherd

O COME, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, King of Glory and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, who art the God of peace and of all concord, grant us, we beseech thee, thy heavenly peace and concord, that we may serve thee in true fear, to the praise and glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

5. He Knows Our Temptations

HAVING then a great high priest, who hath passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but one that hath been, in all points, tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

Let us pray:

O GOD, the Father of our Saviour Jesus Christ, whose name is great, whose nature is holy, whose goodness is eternal, thou art the God and Ruler of all things and thou art blessed forever. Sanctify, O Lord, our spirits, search our consciences, and cast out of our minds every evil thought. Cleanse us of every base desire, all envy and pride, all wrath and anger, and all that is contrary to thy holy will. And grant us, O Lord, thou Lover of men, pure hearts and contrite souls, that we may pray unto thee acceptably, our God and Father who art in heaven. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

6. The Spirit Giveth Life

THE hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for such doth the Father seek to be his worshipers. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I have spoken unto you are spirit and are life.

Our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as partakers of a new covenant: not of the letter but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Let us pray:

O LORD our God, great, eternal, wonderful in glory, who keepest covenant and promises for those that love thee with their whole heart; who art the Life of all, the Help of those who flee unto thee, the Hope of those who cry unto thee: cleanse us from our sins, secret and open, and from every thought displeasing to thy goodness; cleanse our bodies and souls, our hearts and consciences, that, with perfect love and a calm hope, we may venture, confidently and fearlessly, to pray unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

7. The Lord is Gracious

MAKE a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his
presence with singing. **K**now ye that the Lord, he is
God; it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves.
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his
courts with praise. **B**e thankful unto him, and bless
his name; for the Lord is good; his mercy is everlast-
ing, and his truth endureth unto all generations.

Let us pray:

GRANT, O heavenly Shepherd, that we be joyful
in thy sheltering care, knowing that thy grace
doth ever keep us, and that thy love can never fail. In
humble prayer we would commit ourselves to thy
keeping. If, like lost sheep, we have wandered from
thy ways, wilt thou restore us in the abundance of thy
mercy. May we be glad in the Lord and rejoice in
thy love that forgives us. Make us wise to know thy
will and obedient to follow where thou dost lead. By
the mercy which we grant unto others, may we invite
thy mercy unto us; and through our unselfish affection
for others, may we discover anew thy boundless love.
Thus would we praise thee, both with our lips and
with our lives, through the grace given us by Christ
our Saviour. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

8. The Father Eternal

THY years, O God, are throughout all generations. Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.

Let us pray:

O GOD, before whose face the generations rise and pass away, age after age the living seek thee and find that of thy faithfulness there is no end. Our fathers in their pilgrimage walked by thy guidance, and rested on thy compassion; still to us, their children, be thou the cloud by day, the fire by night. Where but in thee have we a covert from the storm or shadow from the heat of life? In our manifold temptations, thou alone knowest and art ever nigh; in sorrow, thy pity revives the fainting soul; in our prosperity and ease, it is thy spirit only that can wean us from our pride and keep us low. O thou sole source of peace and righteousness, take now the veil from every heart, and join us in one communion with thy prophets and saints, who have trusted in thee and were not ashamed. Not of our worthiness, but of thy tender mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Thy 8-10-19 K29C

CALLS TO WORSHIP

9. The Everlasting Mercy

THE Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. *p* He will not always chide, neither will he keep his anger for ever. *c* He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. *p* For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. *all* The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; to such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. *stan* Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.

Let us pray:

O GOD, who puttest into our hearts such deep desires that we cannot be at peace until we rest in thee: mercifully grant that the longing of our souls may not go unsatisfied because of any unrighteousness of life that may separate us from thee. Open our minds to the counsels of eternal wisdom and breathe into our souls the peace that passeth understanding. Let our hunger and thirst be for righteousness, that we may be filled with the bread of heaven. O Lord, give us grace to seek first thy kingdom, and we know that thou wilt add unto us all things needful. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

✓ 10. The Cup of Salvation

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GRACIOUS is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee. What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people. I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY Father, enter thou our hearts, and so fill us with thy love that, forsaking all evil desires, we may embrace thee, our only good. Show unto us, for thy mercies' sake, O Lord our God, what thou art to us. Say unto our souls, I am thy salvation. So speak that we may hear. Our hearts are before thee; open thou our ears; let us hasten after thy voice, and take hold on thee. Hide not thy face from us, we beseech thee, O Lord. Enlarge thou the narrowness of our souls, that thou mayest enter in. Repair the ruinous mansions, that thou mayest dwell there. Hear us, O heavenly Father, for the sake of thine only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

II. Trust in the Lord

I WAS glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek thy good.

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

Let us pray:

O THOU Good Omnipotent, who so carest for every one of us as if thou caredst for him alone; and so for all as if all were but one! Blessed is the man who loveth thee, and his friend in thee, and his enemy for thee. We behold how some things pass away that others may replace them, but thou dost never depart. O God, our Father, supremely good, Beauty of all things beautiful, to thee will we intrust whatsoever we have received from thee, and so shall we lose nothing. Thou hast made us for thyself, and our hearts are restless until they repose in thee. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

12. Walking in Integrity

JUDGE me, O Lord, for I have walked in mine integrity; I have trusted also in the Lord. I will wash my hands in innocency; so will I compass thine altar, O Lord: that I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving and tell of all thy wondrous works. Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth. In the congregation will I praise the Lord.

Let us pray:

O GOD, our true Life, in whom and by whom all things live, thou commandest us to seek thee, and art ever ready to be found; thou biddest us knock, and openest when we do so. To know thee is life, to serve thee is freedom, to enjoy thee is a kingdom, to praise thee is the joy and happiness of the soul. We praise, and bless, and adore thee. We worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks unto thee for thy great glory. We humbly beseech thee to abide with us, to reign in us, to make these hearts of ours thy holy temple, a fit habitation for thy Divine Majesty. O thou Maker and Preserver of all things, visible and invisible, keep, we beseech thee, our hearts which are the work of thine own hands, for we trust only in thy mercy for safety and protection. Guard us with the power of thy grace, here and in all places, now and at all times, for evermore. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

13. The Strength of My Life

*C*THE Lord is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear? *P*The Lord is the strength of my life: of whom shall I be afraid? *C*One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: *P*that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. *C*For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: *P*in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. *all* Therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.

Let us pray:

O GOD, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

14. Compassion for Humanity

HEAR, O Heavens, and give ear, O Earth; for the Lord hath spoken. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Let us pray:

O THOU loving and tender Father in heaven, we confess before thee, in sorrow, how hard and unsympathetic are our hearts; how often we have sinned against our neighbors by want of compassion and tenderness; how often we have felt no true pity for their trials and sorrows, and have neglected to comfort, help, and visit them. O Father, forgive this our sin, and lay it not to our charge. Give us grace ever to alleviate the crosses and difficulties of those around us, and never to add to them; teach us to be consolers in sorrow, to take thought for the stranger, the widow and the orphan; let our charity show itself not in words only, but in deed and truth. Teach us to judge as thou dost, with forbearance, with much pity and indulgence; and help us to avoid all unloving judgment of others; for the sake of Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

15. Strength and Beauty

O SING unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day. Honor and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

Let us pray:

O GOD, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: grant us, thy servants, we humbly beseech thee, that peace which the world can neither give nor take away; that we who, in all our dangers, rely on thy goodness, may, under thy fatherly protection, be defended against all adversities, and evermore rejoice in thy blessed service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

16. God is Infinitely Exalted

PRAISE ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him with the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

Let us pray:

GRANT us, O most loving Lord, to rest in thee above all created things: above all health and beauty, above all glory and honor, above all power and dignity, above all knowledge and wisdom, above all riches and art, above all fame and praise, above all sweetness and comfort, above all hope and promise, above all gifts and favors that thou canst give and impart to us, above all jubilee that the mind of man can receive and feel, finally above all that thou art not, O my God. Whatsoever thou bestowest upon us, apart from thyself, is too small a gift, if thou art not fully obtained. For surely our hearts cannot truly rest nor be entirely contented, until we rest in thee. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

17. He Shall Strengthen Your Hearts

IN thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed. Deliver me in thy righteousness. O how great is thy goodness which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men! Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues. Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your hearts, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Let us pray:

BREATHE into our souls, O heavenly Father, the love of whatsoever is true and beautiful and good. May we fear to be unfaithful and have no other fear. Forgive us all our sins, and keep us from sinning again. Help us to remember that we are thy children and belong to thee. Enable us to love others as thou hast loved us. Make us generous and kind to all, faithful in duty, truthful in speech and sweet in temper. Enlighten our minds that we may know thee; inspire our hearts that we may love thee; and guide our wills that we may serve thee for ever. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

18. The Beauty of Holiness

GIVE unto the Lord, O ye mighty, give unto the Lord glory and strength. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger endureth but a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may come to lodge at evening, but joy cometh in the morning. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

Let us pray:

O LIFE-GIVING Master, and Bestower of all good things, who hast given to men the blessed hope of everlasting life, our Lord Jesus Christ: grant us grace to perform this divine service unto thee with sincerity and honesty of heart, that we may enjoy the blessedness that now is and the fruition that is to come; and, being evermore guarded by thy power and guided into the light of thy truth, may continually render unto thee all glory and thanksgiving. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

19. A Song in the Night

AS the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. The Lord will command his loving-kindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

Let us pray:

O GOD, the source of perfect blessedness, who dost teach thy faithful ones to walk in thy laws, to search thy testimonies, to keep thy commandments: grant unto us, we beseech thee, thy righteousness, that we may seek thee with our whole hearts; that we, who hitherto have wandered like lost sheep, restored by thy kind arms, may rejoice in the glories of thy heavenly home; through Jesus Christ thy Son. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

20. Be of Good Courage

IT is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High: to show forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night; for thou, Lord, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands. O Lord, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep. Thou, Lord, art most high for evermore.

Let us pray:

HEAR, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me. When thou saidst, Seek ye my face, my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek. Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord. Unto thee will I cry, O Lord my rock; be not silent. Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

ALmighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

21. The Church of the Living God

O SEND out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles. Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God, my God. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? ^{all} Hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Let us pray:

O ALMIGHTY King of the Ages and Master of all Creation, receive thy ^{People} Church as we approach thee through Christ. Fulfil for each of us what is good for him; bring us all into willing surrender to thyself, uniting us with one heart and mind in devout worship and praise. Make us all true members of that ^{Kingdom} Holy Church which thou hast purchased for thyself with the precious blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, with whom and with thy Holy Spirit thou art blessed and glorified for ever. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

22. A Prayer at Twilight

I SAID unto the Lord, Thou art my God: hear the voice of my supplications, O Lord. Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence. Lord, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee. Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

Let us pray:

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from all our fears, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

23. Be Still and Know

THE LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him. The mighty God, even the Lord, hath spoken and hath called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined. Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence. Be still and know that I am God. The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Let us pray:

O MOST merciful Lord, grant to us thy grace, that it may be with us, and labor with us, and persevere with us to the end. Grant that we may always desire and will that which is to thee most acceptable and most dear. Let thy will be our will, and may our wills ever follow thy will, and agree perfectly with it. Grant to us, above all things that can be desired, to rest in thee, and in thee to have our hearts at peace. Thou art the true peace of the heart; thou its only rest. Out of thee, all things are hard and restless. In this peace of peace, that is, in thee, the one Chiefest Eternal God, we will rest. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

24. The Beginning of Wisdom

PRAISE ye the Lord. *P* I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation. The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. His work is honorable and glorious, and his righteousness endureth for ever. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments. His praise endureth for ever.

Let us pray:

(2) **C**OME, O Lord, in much mercy down into our souls and take possession and dwell there. We offer but a homely mansion, we confess, for so glorious a Majesty; but it is such as thou art fitting up for the reception of thee, by holy and fervent desires of thine own inspiring. Enter, then, and adorn it, and make it such as thou canst inhabit, since it is the work of thy hands. Give us thine own self, without which, though thou shouldest give us all that ever thou hast made, yet could not our desires be satisfied. Let our souls ever seek thee, and let us persist in seeking, till we have found thee and have entered into full possession of thee. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

25. Renew Our Spirits

C PRAISE waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed. *P* O Thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come. *C* Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: *P* we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple. *all* All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name.

C Let us pray:

L IGHTE~~N~~ our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord, and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

all O LORD, renew our spirits and draw our hearts unto thyself that our work may not be to us a burden but a delight; and give us such a mighty love to thee as may sweeten all our obedience. Oh, let us not serve thee with the spirit of bondage as slaves, but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children, delighting ourselves in thee and rejoicing in thy work. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

26. A Light in Our Hearts

I WILL praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart;
I will show forth all thy marvelous works. *P* I will
be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy
name, O thou Most High. *C* The Lord will be a refuge
for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. *P* And
they that know thy name will put their trust in thee:
for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.
C Sing praises to the Lord.

Let us pray:

O THOU who art the true Sun of the world, ever
rising, and never going down; who, by thy most
wholesome appearing and sight dost nourish and
gladden all things, in heaven and earth: we beseech
thee mercifully to shine into our hearts, that the night
and darkness of sin, and the mists of error on every
side, being driven away by the brightness of thy shin-
ing within our hearts, we may all our life walk without
stumbling, as in the daytime, and, being pure and
clean from the works of darkness, may abound in all
good works which thou hast prepared for us to walk
in. Amen.

CALLS TO WORSHIP

27. Repentance and Pardon

SOW to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. He will revive us, he will raise us up; and we shall live in his sight. His going forth is as sure as the morning, and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter rain that watereth the earth.

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father: we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, and spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

First Order of Prayer

OUR FATHER ALMIGHTY

A Morning Prayer

(1) **E**TERNAL God, who hast neither dawn nor evening, yet sendest us the alternate mercies of the darkness and the day, there is no light but thine, without or within. As thou liftest the curtains of night from our abodes, take also the veil from all our hearts. Rise with thy morning upon our souls; quicken all our labor and our prayer; and, though all else declines, let the noontide of thy grace and peace remain. May we walk, while it is yet day, in the steps of Him, who, with fewest hours, finished thy divinest work. Amen.

For the Pardon of Our Sins

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all those who, with hearty repentance and true faith, turn unto thee: have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

A Love for Virtue

O GOD, make perfect our love toward thee and to our Redeemer and Justifier. Give us a true and unfeigned love for all virtue and godliness, and for all thy chosen people wheresoever they be dispersed throughout the world. Increase in us strength and grant us victory over all temptations, that, according to thy promise, we be never further proved or tempted than thou wilt give us strength to overcome. Grant us grace to keep a good conscience; give us pure hearts and minds; and renew thy Spirit within us, through thy boundless grace made known to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Love is Born of God

O LORD God, thou holy lover of our souls, when thou comest into our souls, then all that is within us shall rejoice. Thou art our glory and the exultation of our hearts; thou art our hope and refuge in the day of trouble. Set us free from all evil passions, and heal our hearts of all inordinate affections; that, being inwardly cured and thoroughly cleansed, we may be made fit to love, courageous to suffer, and steady to persevere. Nothing is higher than love, nothing more courageous, nothing fuller nor better in heaven or on earth; for love is born of God, and cannot rest but in God, above all created things. Help us to love thee more than we love ourselves; and to love ourselves only for thy sake, our Father everlasting. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Be not Anxious

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O LORD God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, open our eyes that we may behold thy fatherly presence ever about us. Draw our hearts to thee with the power of thy love. Teach us to be anxious for nothing, and when we have done what thou hast given us to do, help us, O God our Saviour, to leave the issue to thy wisdom. Take from us all doubt and mistrust. Lift our thoughts up to thee who dwellest in the heavens, and make us to know that all things are possible to us through thy Son our Redeemer. Amen.

All Sorts and Conditions of Men

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed, in mind, body or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, giving them patience

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Day of Victory

GRANT us, O Lord, to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain; that, reaching the eventide victorious over all temptation, we may praise thee, the eternal God, who art blessed, and dost govern all things, world without end. Amen.

Truth and Life Eternal

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace, at this time, with one accord, to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt grant their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

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Second Order of Prayer PENITENCE AND PEACE

A Morning Prayer

O GOD, who dividest the day from the night, separate our deeds from the gloom of darkness. As thou hast awakened our bodies from sleep, so, we beseech thee, awaken our souls from sin. As thou hast caused the light of day to shine on our bodily eyes, cause the light of thy truth and thy Holy Spirit to illuminate our hearts; and so give us grace, as the children of light, to walk in all holy obedience before thy face this day, that in all our thoughts, words, and dealings, we may endeavor to keep faith toward thee and a clean conscience toward all men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Pardon of Our Sins

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all those who, with hearty repentance and true faith, turn unto thee: have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

The Divine Compassion

O MOST mighty God and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon all men, and who wouldest not the death of a sinner but rather that he should turn from his sin, and be saved: mercifully forgive us our trespasses; receive and comfort us, who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins. Thy property is always to have mercy; to thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare us, therefore, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed; and enter not into judgment with thy servants. Turn thine anger from us, for we meekly acknowledge our sins, and truly repent of our faults; and so make haste to help us in this world, that we may ever live with thee in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Renewal of Our Spirits

O THOU plenteous Source of every good and perfect gift, shed abroad the cheering light of thy manifold grace over our hearts. Yea, Spirit of love and gentleness, we most humbly implore thy assistance. Thou knowest our faults, our failings, our necessities, the dulness of our understanding, the waywardness of our affections, the perverseness of our will. When, therefore, we neglect to practice what we know, visit us, we beseech thee, with thy grace, enlighten our minds, rectify our desires, correct our wanderings and pardon our omissions, so that by thy

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guidance we may be preserved from making shipwreck of faith, keep a good conscience, and may at length be landed safe in the haven of eternal rest; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Quickened Conscience

ALMIGHTY God, who by thy grace and providence hast brought my great and crying sins to light, I most humbly beseech thee to continue thy grace and mercy to me, that my conscience being now awakened, I may call my ways to remembrance, and confess, and bewail and abhor all the sins of my past life. And, O merciful God, give me true repentance for them, even that repentance to which thou hast promised mercy and pardon, that even for the consequences of my wrongdoing there may be healing, and that for all my sins I may find mercy at thy hands; through the merits and mediation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Conformity to God's Will

O ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

Contrite Hearts

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our faults, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Help of God's Grace

O GOD, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Vision and Strength

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Third Order of Prayer

THE INNER LIFE

God is Our Peace

ALMIGHTY God, the refuge of all that are distressed, grant unto us that, in all the troubles of this our mortal life, we may flee to the knowledge of thy lovingkindness and tender mercy; that so, sheltering ourselves therein, the storms of life may pass over us and not shake the peace of God that is within us. Whatsoever this life may bring us, grant that it may never take from us the serene faith that thou art our Father. Grant us thy light, that we may have life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A General Thanksgiving

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and lovingkindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation and preservation, and for all the blessings of this life. But above all we bless thee for thy measureless mercy in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. We beseech thee to give us that due sense of all thy mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may show forth thy

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Tranquil Haven

O LORD our God, teach us, we beseech thee, to ask thee aright for those blessings which we need. Guide thou the ship of our life toward thyself, thou tranquil haven of all storm-tossed souls. Show us the course wherein we should go, and may our spirits be willing to go where thou dost guide. Curb our wayward wills and lead us to choose that which is our true good. May we rejoice evermore in thy glorious and gladdening presence; and thine shall be the praise for ever and ever. Amen.

The Witness of the Spirit

O SEARCHER of hearts, thou knowest us better than we know ourselves, and seest the sins which our sinfulness hides from our eyes. Yet even our own conscience beareth witness against us, that we often slumber on our appointed watch; that we walk not always lovingly with each other and humbly with thee; and that we withhold that entire sacrifice of ourselves to thy perfect will, without which we are not crucified with Christ, as sharers in his redemption. Look, we pray thee, upon our contrition, and lift us out of our weakness. Let the dayspring yet arise within our

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hearts and bring us healing, strength and joy. Day by day may we grow in faith, in self-denial, in charity, in heavenly mindedness. And then receive us at last with the mighty host of thy redeemed for evermore. Amen.

Likeness to Christ

(1) **A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

O ALMIGHTY God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: grant us perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the Way, the Truth and the Life; that, following the steps of thy holy apostles, we may steadfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

Fourth Order of Prayer STRENGTH FOR DAILY LIVING

The Spirit of Helpfulness

O GOD our Father, who through thy Son hast bidden us give to every one who thirsts the cup of cold water: grant us grace to minister in sympathy to the physical needs of others, and also, as we have opportunity, to give to them that living water which springeth up unto everlasting life. Amen.

Children of One Father

O MERCIFUL God, fill our hearts, we pray thee, with the graces of thy Holy Spirit, with love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control. Teach us to love those who hate us; to pray for those who spitefully use us; that we may be the children of thee, our Father, who makest thy sun to shine on the evil and on the good, and sendest rain on the just and on the unjust. Amen.

The Bond of Peace

O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing, send thy Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues,

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without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Charitable Judgment

O CREATOR and Preserver of mankind, whose will is that not one of thy children should perish but that all should have eternal life: we beseech thee that the mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus, that we may account nothing common or unclean which thou hast made, nor despise those who, through ignorance and temptation, have wandered into sin; nor hate those who, following the evil of their own hearts, have wrought wickedness in the earth. But help us rather to imitate the example of thy Son, in patience toward the infirmities of mankind, and hope for the redemption of those who are furthest off from thee; seeking ever to overcome hatred with love and evil with good; that others may see our good works and glorify with us our Father in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Brotherly Love

O GOD, who of thy great love to this world didst reconcile earth to heaven through thine only begotten Son: grant that we, who, by the darkness of our sins, are turned aside from brotherly love, may by thy light shed forth in our souls be filled with thine own sweetness, and love our friends in thee and our enemies for thy sake, through thy grace. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

The Grace of Patience

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth, who givest power to the faint and strength to them that have no might: look mercifully, we beseech thee, on our low estate; cause thy grace to triumph in our weakness, that with courage and confidence we may arise and follow, in the way of righteousness, those who, by their faith and patience, already inherit the promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Love Which is Immortal

O MOST loving Father, who willest us to give thanks for all things, to dread nothing but the loss of thee, and to cast all our cares on thee who carest for us: preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, and grant that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

United in Prayer

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call on thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Fifth Order of Prayer THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT

One Father of All

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace; give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that as there is but one body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

One Great Fellowship

O THOU who keepest the steps of the upright in heart, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life: enable us by thy grace to live worthily as in thy sight. Inspire us with the spirit of devotion to thy holy will, whereby we may prove faithful in that which is least as well as in that which is most. Join us in one great fellowship with those who seek to make firm and sure thy kingdom upon the earth. By the charity of our temper and thoughts may we show forth

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the power of the gospel of love and so live in unity and peace with all men. Amen.

Reconciliation

O GOD our Father, in whom are calmness and peace: reconcile the dissensions which divide us from one another, and bring us into a unity of love which may bear some likeness to thy blessed nature; that we may be spiritually one, as well in ourselves as with each other, through that peace of thine which maketh all things peaceful, and through the grace, mercy, and tenderness wherewith thou, O Lord, art our Father, for ever. Amen.

The Mind of Christ

O MERCIFUL Lord, who hast made of one blood, and redeemed by one ransom, all nations of men: may we never harden our hearts against any that partake of the same nature and redemption with us, but grant us a universal charity towards all men. Give us, O thou Father of Compassions, such a tenderness of heart that we may be deeply affected by all the miseries and calamities, outward or inward, of our brethren, and diligently keep them in love; grant that we may not only seek our own good, but also the welfare of others. Oh, that this mind may be in us all, which was in the Lord Jesus, that we may love our brethren, be pitiful and courteous, and endeavor heartily and vigorously to keep the unity of the Spirit

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in the bond of peace; and the God of grace, mercy and peace be with us all. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt grant their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

Sixth Order of Prayer

THE LAW OF LOVE

Spiritual Worship

ALMIGHTY God, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, and who pourest out upon all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication: deliver us, when we draw nigh unto thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind; that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are ² open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Whole Heart

OLORD our God, grant us grace to desire thee ³ with our whole heart; that so desiring we may seek and find thee; and so finding thee may love thee; and loving thee may hate those sins from which thou hast redeemed us. Amen.

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The Pardon of Our Sins

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all those who, with hearty repentance and true faith, turn unto thee: have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christ's New Commandment

✓ **O** GOD of love, who hast given a new commandment through thine only-begotten Son that we should love one another, even as thou didst love us, the unworthy and the wandering, and who gavest thy beloved Son for our life and salvation: we pray thee, Lord, give to us, thy servants, in all the time of our life on earth, a mind forgetful of past ill will, a pure conscience and sincere thoughts, and a heart to love our brethren; in and through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Riches of God's Grace

O GOD, our Father everlasting, in thee is the boundless sea of love, the fathomless abyss of peace, the fountain of all blessings. All who have the power to love have received that gift from thee; all whose minds are illuminated by truth owe that bless-

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

ing to thy grace. Thou sendest thy spirit unto all men who open their hearts to receive thee. Thou revealest thy truth to minds that are sincere. Help us to be merciful that we may obtain mercy. Give us charity to judge not, that we be not judged. So shall we share the gifts of thy heavenly grace, and, in sharing, find them multiplied unto our own souls. Thus shall we be the stewards of thine endless blessings; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

In the Image of God

O GOD, thou art Life, Wisdom, Truth, Bounty, ² the eternal, the one true God. Thou art our hope and the deep joy of our souls. Thou hast made us, thy children, in thine own image. Help us to fulfil that image and to direct our thoughts to thee, and love thee. Lord, make us to know thee aright, that, more and more, we may love and enjoy and possess thee. And since, in the life here below, we cannot fully attain this blessedness, let it at least grow in us day by day, until it all be fulfilled at last in the life to come. Here be the knowledge of thee increased, and there let it be perfected. Here let our love to thee grow, and there let it ripen, that our joy being here great in hope, may there in fruition be made perfect. Amen.

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Seventh Order of Prayer GOOD SOLDIERS OF JESUS CHRIST

A Loyal Will

O LORD, from whom all good things do come, grant to us, thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guidance may perform the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Fight of Faith

O HEAVENLY Father, the Source of all wisdom, understanding, and spiritual strength, we beseech thee, for the sake of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, that thou wilt look upon us in mercy and send us thy Holy Spirit according to our need. Through thy wisdom may we know how to meet temptation and possess the strength to resist it to the end. Thou dost call us to be good soldiers, and dost offer unto us the divine armor and the sword of the Spirit. When we must go forth to the contest of the field for the glory of thy name, be thou our courage and our strength, our fortitude and our patience. As thou dost surely defend thy truth, wilt thou defend us as we contend for it in thy name. If we must stand in darkness, waiting for the dawn, then grant us thy grace that, having done all, we may be able to stand.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

Even unto the end of our spiritual warfare, may we be thy faithful soldiers as thou art our Captain in the fight. We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

Daily Fidelity

O THOU Almighty Helper and ever-present God, we bring to thee all our needs. O thou Author of all good, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, may thy mercies be our daily song, and may the light of thy countenance, in this world of power and beauty, move our hearts to great thankfulness and a sweet trust. Day by day thou dost appoint our portion, especially revealing thy glory in the dear Son of thy love, and calling us into his kingdom of service and blessedness. May this be our love of thee in him, that we love one another and keep all his commandments. Amen.

Obedience to Our Leader

O GOD, who hast commanded that no man should be idle, give us grace to employ all our time and our talents in the service which thou hast appointed for us. Grant that whatsoever our hand findeth to do, we may do it with our might. Cheerfully may we go forward in the road which thou hast marked out, not desiring too earnestly that it should be either more wide or more smooth. Grant that daily we may seek our way by the light which thou dost give. May we trust

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the issue of our journey to thee who art our Guide and our Goal. Grant us grace to sing thy praise as we go along the road; and in thy mercy receive us at the gate of life which has been opened for us by the hand of Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Fulfilling Christ's Purpose

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, who hast given unto us the promise of the life that now is, as well as of that which is to come: we beseech thee for thy blessing upon our substance; and that, having food and clothing, we may be therewith content, and may pass our days in peace and quietness. Be with thy servants who go forth unto their work and labor until the evening, and comfort their hearts with a due return for the same. Give thy grace to all who are rich, that with a free heart they may yield unto the laborer his hire and may be bountiful unto the needy: and do thou deliver the poor from oppression, and give unto them patience and contentment; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Singleness of Heart

O GOD, who, by the example of thy dear Son, hast warned us that we should work thy works while it is day, before the night cometh when no man can work: keep us from sloth and idleness, and from the misuse of those talents which thou hast committed to

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

our trust. Enable us to perform the several duties of our state and calling with such care and diligence that our work may ever be approved in thy sight; and forasmuch as the needful business of this life is apt to steal away our hearts from thee, give us grace to remember that we have a Master in heaven, and to do everything in singleness of heart, as unto thee and not unto men, that of thee we may receive the reward of the inheritance which thou hast promised; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Right Spirit

LORD of all power and might, who art the Author and Giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of thy name; increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of thy great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When our Work is Done

THE peace of God which passeth all understanding, that peace which the world can neither give nor take away, keep our minds and hearts through Christ Jesus our Saviour. May he support us all the day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in his mercy may he give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Eighth Order of Prayer THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL

Fellowship with the Saints

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son, Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which thou hast prepared for those who unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Precious Memories

ETERNAL God, in whom the spirits of the just do rest from their labors: we bless thee for the memory of the righteous, and especially for those most dear to us, who have lived in faith and departed in peace. May we follow their good examples, and, truly loving and serving thee on earth, be gathered with them into thy heavenly kingdom. Amen.

God's Dwelling Place

AL MIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who hast made the Church thy dwelling place, and hast taught us in thy word not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together: regard us in thy mercy,

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

we beseech thee, who meet this day in thy holy place. Manifest thyself unto us, and bless us, that our worship may prepare us both to serve thee now and to glorify thee in thine eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Church of the Living God

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hast built thy church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: we pray thee to inspire the Church universal with the spirit of truth, unity and concord; and grant that all who confess thy holy name may abide in the truth, and live in unity and godly love. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Christian ministers, that, both by their life and doctrine, they may set forth thy true and living Word. To all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present, that with meek heart and due reverence they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. We beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we bless thy holy name for all thy servants who have departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to give us grace to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

A Cloud of Witnesses

O GOD, the Father everlasting, whom the glorious hosts of heaven obey, and in whose presence patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, with all the spirits of the just made perfect, continually do live: fix the eye of our faith, we beseech thee, with clear and full vision, on the great cloud of witnesses wherewith we are thus compassed about, that laying aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, we may run with patience the race that is set before us, and obtain at last the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Soul is God's Temple

O HOLY Spirit, Love of God, infuse thy grace, and descend plentifully into our hearts. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there thy cheerful beams. Dwell in the soul that longs to be thy temple. Water our heart's barren soil, overrun with weeds and briars, and lost for the want of cultivating, and make it fruitful with thy dew from heaven. Oh come, thou refreshment of them that languish and faint. Come, thou Star and Guide of them that sail the tempestuous sea of the world; thou only Haven of the tossed and shipwrecked. Come, thou Glory and Crown of the living and only Safeguard of the dying. Come, Holy Spirit, in much mercy, and make us fit to receive thee. Amen.

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Ninth Order of Prayer THE SERENE MIND

Grace and Blessing

O GOD, Light of the hearts that seek thee, Life of the souls that love thee, and Strength of the thoughts that find thee: to be turned from thee is to fall; to be turned toward thee is to rise; to abide in thee is to stand fast for ever. Grant us now thy grace and blessing, as we are assembled here to offer thee our common supplications. Though we are unworthy to approach thee or to ask anything of thee at all, be pleased, in thine abundant compassion, to hear us and to answer our petitions; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace Within

ALMIGHTY God, the refuge of all that are distressed, grant unto us that, in all trouble of this mortal life, we may flee to the knowledge of thy lovingkindness and tender mercy; that so, sheltering ourselves therein, the storms of life may pass over us, and not shake the peace of God that is within us. Whatsoever this life may bring us, grant that it may never take from us the full faith that thou art our Father. Grant us thy light, that we may have life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Daily Grace for Daily Needs

O GOD, from whom all good things do come, who sendest sunshine and fruitful seasons: be pleased to bestow upon us day by day what we require; grant to each of us the strength he needs to accomplish his task; bless the work of our hands and of our minds; and give us grace to serve thee in health or in sickness, in wealth or in poverty. Sanctify to us our joys and our trials, and enable us to seek first thy kingdom and thy righteousness, and to believe that thou wilt add to us all else that is good. Amen.

The Ship of Our Souls

O LORD, unto whom all hearts are open, thou canst govern the ship of our souls far better than we can. Arise, O Lord, and command the stormy wind and the troubled sea of our hearts to be still and at peace in thee, that we may look up to thee undisturbed, and abide in union with thee, our Lord. Let us not be carried hither and thither by wandering thoughts; but forgetting all else, let us see and hear thee. Renew our spirits; kindle in us thy light, that it may shine within us, and our hearts may burn in love and adoration towards thee. Let thy Holy Spirit dwell in us continually, and make us thy temple and sanctuary; and fill us with divine love and light and life, with devout and heavenly thoughts, with comfort and strength, with joy and peace. Amen.

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

The Holy Spirit

O HEAVENLY Father, the Author and Fountain of all truth, the bottomless Sea of all understanding, send, we beseech thee, thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, and lighten our understandings with the beams of thy heavenly grace. We ask this, O merciful Father, for the sake of thy dear Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Life Eternal

O GOD, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

A LMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt grant their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Tenth Order of Prayer EVENING WORSHIP

The Twilight Hour

ALMIGHTY Father and keeper of our souls, who alone makest us to dwell in safety: refresh with quiet sleep this night those who are wearied with the labors of the day; and mercifully protect from harm all who put their trust in thee, that, lying down in peace to take our rest, we may fear no evil, but confidently give ourselves into thy holy keeping. Amen.

O GOD, the Father of lights, in whom is no variableness neither shadow of turning, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift: help us so to live in thy peace that even the night shall be light about us. O thou who dost neither slumber nor sleep, and who givest thine angels charge over us to keep us in all our ways, send out thy light and thy truth, till all men shall see thy glory, and the whole earth be full of the knowledge of God. Amen. 16-17-37

O LORD God, the day is thine, the night also is thine. The darkness and the light are both alike to thee. Protect us through the hours of sleep, that our rest may refresh us in body and mind. Soothe our troubled thoughts, and breathe thy peace into our rest-

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

less hearts. May thy invisible presence watch over us, and in the light of a new day may we rise to bless thee for thy sheltering care. Amen.

Light in Darkness

O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldst have us to do, that the spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, that in thy light we may see light and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Heavenly Fires

PRAISED be thou, O God, Almighty Ruler, who dost make the day bright with thy sunshine, and the night with the beams of thy heavenly fires! Listen now to our prayers, and forgive us both our conscious and unconscious transgressions. Clothe us with the armor of righteousness; shield us with thy truth; watch over us with thy power; save us from all calamity; and give us grace to pass all the days of our life, blameless, holy, peaceful, free from sin, terror and offense. For with thee is mercy and plenteous redemption, our Lord and our God, and to thee we bring our thanks and praise. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Folk of Many Families

WE beseech thee, Lord, to behold us with favor, folk of many families and nations gathered together in the peace of this roof, weak men and women subsisting under the covert of thy patience. Be patient still; suffer us yet a while longer — with our broken purposes of good, with our idle endeavors against evil; suffer us a little longer to endure, and, if it may be, help us to do better. Bless to us our extraordinary mercies; if the day come when these must be taken, brace us to play the man under affliction. Be with our friends; be with ourselves. Go with each of us to rest; if any awake, temper to them the dark hours of watching; and when the day returns, return to us, our Sun and Comforter, and call us up with morning faces and with morning hearts, eager to labor, eager to be happy if happiness be our portion, and, if the day be marked for sorrow, strong to endure it. Amen.

The Glory of the Heavens 16-17-37^{me}

O THOU infinite Perfection, who art the soul of all things, we thank thee for the world of matter whereon we live, wherewith our hands are occupied, and whereby our bodies are builded up and filled with food and furnished with all things needful to enjoy. We thank thee for the calmness of Night, who folds thy children in her arms, and rockest them into peace-

TEN ORDERS OF PRAYER

ful sleep; and when we wake we thank thee that we are still with thee. We bless thee for the heavens over our heads, arched with loveliness and starred with beauty, speaking in the poetry of nature the psalm of life which the spheres chant before thee to every listening soul.

We thank thee for this greater and nobler world of spirits wherein we live, whereof we are, whereby we are strengthened, upheld, and blessed. We thank thee for the wondrous powers which thou hast given to man, that thou hast created him for so great an estate, that thou hast enriched him with such noble faculties of mind and conscience and heart and soul, capable of such continual increase of growth and income of inspiration from thyself. We thank thee for the wise mind, for the just conscience, for the loving heart, and the soul which knows thee as thou art, and enters into communion with thy spirit, rejoicing in its blessing from day to day. Amen.

When our Work is Done

THE peace of God which passeth all understanding, that peace which the world can neither give nor take away, keep your minds and hearts through Jesus Christ our Saviour. May he support us all the day long, till the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in his mercy may he give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

The Beginning of the Year

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, with whom one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day: we bring thee thanks and praise for thy blessings, more than we can number, with which thou hast crowned our lives during the year now past; and, since thy mercies are ever new, let the year which has now begun be to us a year of grace and salvation. Have pity upon us in our frailty, whose days are as the grass; deliver us from the vanity of our human nature, and establish us in the fellowship of that life which is the same yesterday, and today, and for ever. Graciously protect and conduct us through the uncertainties of this new year of our earthly pilgrimage; prepare us for its duties and trials, its joys and sorrows; help us to watch and pray, and to be always ready like men that wait for their Lord; and grant that every change, whether it be of prosperity or adversity, of life or death, may bring us nearer to thee, and to that great eternal joy and rest, which after the years of this earthly life, await the faithful in thy blissful presence; when we shall unite with the angels and saints in ascribing blessings, and honor, and glory, and power, unto Him who sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Palm Sunday

O LORD Jesus Christ, who on this day didst enter the rebellious city where thou wast to die: enter into our hearts, we beseech thee, and subdue them wholly to thyself. And as thy faithful disciples blessed thy coming and spread their garments in the way, covering it with palm branches, may we be ready to lay at thy feet all that we have and are, and to bless thee, O thou who comest in the name of the Lord. And grant that after having been thy faithful disciples upon the earth, we may be among the number of those who shall hail thine eternal triumphs and bear in their hands the palms of victory, when every knee shall bow before thee, and every tongue confess that thou art Lord, and that thou shalt reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Palm Sunday

ALMIGHTY God, Fountain of Strength, send us thy help. Help us to cast out of the temple of our hearts everything which in our moments of clear and solemn vision we know ought not to be there, every temper and passion and desire that cannot bear the searching scrutiny of Divine purity and love. O God, our Peace, dwell in us more and more. Dwell in our minds as Truth, in our hearts as Charity, in our wills as Strength, and nevermore leave thy temple. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Good Friday

O GOD, our heavenly Father, we rejoice that thy love has wrought redemption for the world. We thank thee for the radiant life and the heroic death of Christ our Master, who is, for evermore the way, the truth, and the life. Help us to walk in his way, though it be to Calvary. Grant us the truth as it was in him, that the truth may make us free. Make us partakers of his life, and may we possess it more abundantly. Strengthen us in times of weakness that we deny him not before the world, nor fear to declare ourselves his disciples. Grant that we be worthy to share his humiliation and that we be partakers also of his glory. We ask it in the name of him who died for us and opened for us the way to life everlasting. Amen.

Good Friday

O LORD our God, who dost look not upon the outward appearance but upon the hearts of men: grant thy strength unto us that we may find in hardship the means of higher discipline, and in suffering and sacrifice a road which leads to thee. May adversity be turned to spiritual gain, and may we endure chastisement as sons of the living God. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Good Friday

O GOD who hast showed us the way of blessedness, thou hast showed us also that the path of duty may lead to the cross, and that the reward of faithfulness may be a crown of thorns. Oh, give us grace to learn these harder lessons of pain and darkness and affliction. May we take up our cross and follow Christ in the strength of patience and the constancy of faith; and may we have such true fellowship with him in his sorrows that we may know the secret of his strength and peace, and see, even in our darkest hour of trial and anguish, the shining of thine own eternal light. Amen.

Good Friday

ALMIGHTY Father, the strength of all valiant spirits, be thou with us when we are tried to the uttermost. As thou didst strengthen the will of Christ in Gethsemane, and didst walk with him, his unseen comrade, on the road to Calvary, so do thou walk with us on the straight hard road of duty. As we follow the path of sacrifice, grant that we endure hardship as good soldiers of Jesus Christ. Strengthen us by discipline, refine our spirits as by fire, and grant that steadfastly we set our hearts upon the realities that are eternal. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Good Friday

O FATHER of spirits, thou lovest whom thou chastenest! Correct us in our weakness as the children of men, that we may love thee in our strength as the sons of God. May the same mind be in us which was also in Jesus Christ, that we may never shrink, when our hour comes, from drinking of the cup that he drank of. Wake in us a soul to obey thee, not with the weariness of servile spirits but with the willingness of the holy angels. Fill us with a contempt of evil pleasures and unfaithful ease; sustain us in the strictness of a devout life. Daily may we crucify every selfish affection, and delight to bear one another's burdens, to uphold each other's faith and charity, being tender-hearted and forgiving as we hope to be forgiven. Hold us to the true humility of the soul that has not yet attained; and may we be modest in our desire, diligent in our trust, and content with the disposals of thy providence. O Lord of life and death, thy counsels are secret; thy wisdom is infinite: we know not what a day may bring forth. When our hour arrives, and the veil between the worlds begins to be lifted before us, may we freely trust ourselves to thee, and say, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Easter

ALMIGHTY God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: we humbly beseech thee that, as by thy special grace assisting us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, who for our redemption didst give thine only-begotten Son to die the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection hast delivered us from the power of the enemy: grant us so to die daily from sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Resurrection of Christ

ALMIGHTY God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who didst raise up thy Son from the dead and give him glory, that our faith and hope might be in thee: quicken us also, we beseech thee, by thy mighty power, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, and cause us to set our affections on things above; so that we may, at the last day, have part in the resurrection of the just, and in the glory of thy heavenly kingdom, whither Jesus the Fore-

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runner is for us entered; where also he liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, for ever. Amen.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

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GOD of all peace and consolation, who didst gloriously fulfil the great promise of the Gospel by sending down the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, to establish the Church as the house of his continual presence and power among men: mercifully grant us, we beseech thee, this same gift of the Spirit, to renew, illuminate, refresh, and sanctify our souls; to be over us and around us like the light and dew of heaven, and to be in us evermore as a well of water springing up into everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Flower Service

ETERNAL Goodness, who givest loveliness to the earth and gladness to the heart, we worship thee. We praise thee for the wonderful life of summer; for the beauty spread upon the hills, and for the flowers that fill the valleys with sweetness. This morning, while the light and music and fragrance that fill the air call us to rejoice, grant that our minds and souls may be open to all heavenly influences. O Life that breathest in all the sweet and fair things which grow and bloom upon the earth, wilt thou not quicken us? Spirit of beauty and goodness, come and dwell

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

with us, that henceforth our lives may be in accord with thine order, and be well pleasing in thy sight. Amen.

Our Beloved Land

ALMIGHTY God, thou who dost inhabit eternity, but who dost measure every moment of time: we pray unto thee for thy help in our deepest need. Quicken within us the sense of the value of that span of time which thou hast allotted unto us. Search thou our hearts and see if there be within us any lack of complete consecration to thee or any hesitation to do thy full will. Grant unto the people of this nation such a sense of the eternal values of our national ideals that we shall hasten to obey thy voice, which calls us to render service for the preservation of those ideals in the earth. May our spirits respond with alertness to the urgent needs of this present time, and may we render with whole heart the full measure of our service unto our country, our God and humanity. Strengthen us by thy grace, and may thine abundant mercy rest upon us. Amen.

Our Ideals for the World

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of the whole human family, thou hast made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth. Thou hatest none whom thou hast made, and despisest not the humble and those who walk in the shadows of

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their ignorance. Thou carest for the oppressed of every land and the downtrodden of all nations. We thank thee for our own beloved land and for thy blessings, given so freely, unto our people. May the ideals which guided our forefathers shine before our eyes today; but may they also illuminate the world. Grant that we assert for ourselves no rights which we do not seek equally for all races, our brothers, throughout the world. So shall thy righteous will be fulfilled, and thy justice bring rejoicing to the hearts of all men everywhere. We ask it in the name of Christ our Master, who taught us that all men are brothers. Amen.

Members of One Family

ALMIGHTY God, grant unto this land a new birth of freedom, and may the spirit of our forefathers come anew into our lives in this present time. May we pledge, as did they in their heroic hour, our lives and all that we possess for the fulfilment of the ideal of human freedom. Make strong our hearts and patient our spirits. May thy power be our courage and may the light of thy countenance give unto us strength in our inner spirits, that we may not falter in the times which test us to the uttermost. May thy will be accomplished in the earth, may righteousness be victorious, and all men learn to know themselves as brothers and sons of one heavenly Father. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Justice Shall Prevail

O THOU who art from everlasting to everlasting, whose patience is eternal and whose purposes fail not, we make our prayer unto thee. Give us confidence that thou wilt not forever tolerate, nor will earth itself endure wrongs, oppressions and iniquities. Strengthen within us that faith that the laws of the earth beneath our feet and of the stars above our heads are laws of righteousness. May we consecrate ourselves to the principles of eternal justice. May the service which we can render to the cause of righteousness and peace give meaning to our life and significance even to death itself. With stalwart wills and with hearts that never doubt, may we go forward in the path of duty, thy grace sustaining us for evermore. Amen.

A General Thanksgiving

We are Children of One Father

A LMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

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And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may show forth thy praise not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

Seedtime and Harvest

O GOD, Giver of all good and Fountain of all mercies, in whom are all the springs of our life: all glory, thanks and praise be unto thee for thine unfailing goodness; for thy faithfulness which is from one generation to another; for thy mercies which are new every morning, fresh every moment, and more than we can number. We thank thee for seedtime and harvest, and summer and winter, and nights and days throughout the year; for food and clothing and shelter; for health and reason; for childhood and age, youth and manhood; for thy fatherly hand ever upon us in sickness and in health, in joy and in sorrow, in life and in death; for friends, kindred, and benefactors; for home and country; for thy Church and for thy gospel.

Yea, Lord, because there is nothing for which we may not bless and thank thee, therefore do we pay our

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

vows now in the presence of all thy people, humbly beseeching thee to accept this our service, which we offer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanksgiving

God's Abundant Mercies

O GOD, thou art our Father, for ever and for ever. We magnify thee, we praise thee, we worship thee; we give thanks unto thee for thy good providence, for all the blessings of the present life, and all the hopes of a better life to come. We thank thee for our preservation, and the bountiful supply of our returning wants; for health of body and soundness of mind; for strength and skill to labor in our several callings, and for that portion of earthly good thou hast bestowed upon us. We thank thee for loving parents, for faithful pastors and teachers, for benefactors never to be forgotten, for kind friends, for all who have helped us upward in our heavenly way.

Above all, we praise and bless thee for thy Son our Saviour, for thy Spirit our sanctifier, for the example of saints and martyrs, and for the hope of glory. Let the memory of thy goodness fill our hearts with joy and thankfulness until life's end; and let our thanksgivings go up with acceptance before thy throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Christmas

O GOD, who by the leading of a star didst manifest, unto men of a far nation, the birth of the Saviour of the world, grant that that heavenly light may shine before the eyes of all the races of men; and turn thou their hearts unto him who came for our redemption. Grant that all who walk in darkness may receive the light which guides unto life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Birth of the Saviour

ALMIGHTY God, whom once the nations worshipped under names of fear, but who hast revealed the glory of thy love in the face of Jesus Christ and called us by him to live with thee as children: fill our hearts, as we remember his nativity, with the gladness of this great redemption. We would join in the heavenly song of Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, and good will toward men. Breathe into our hearts the spirit of Jesus, that we may be led to thee in trust and obedience, and be sent out to live among men in brotherly love and sympathy. Every year, as this joyful festival comes round, may it find the world more and more in harmony with thy will, which has been made known to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

For Places of Learning

O FATHER of Light and Fountain of all knowledge, bless, we beseech thee, all schools, universities and places of learning, and grant that the light of truth may shine with growing brightness on all men, so that wisdom and knowledge may be the stability of our times. Shine into our minds with the knowledge of thyself, and incline our hearts to understanding. Grant to us that we may love the laws of thy kingdom, and rejoice in the works which thou hast made, that in thy light we may see light, and in thy service find perfect freedom. We ask it in the name of Christ, who is the light of the world. Amen.

For Those Who Travel

O THOU who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are far off upon the sea: we commend to thine almighty protection all travelers by land or sea or air; overshadow them with thy mercy, and surround them with thy love. When they cry unto thee in distress, do thou mercifully send them help and deliverance. Go with them on their journeys, their voyages and their flights. Grant to those who are far from their homes that they may revisit them, in thy good time, in peace. Amen.

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

FREELY ye have received, freely give. Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

WITH what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

GIVE, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom.

BLESSED is he that considereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and his good deed will He pay him again.

EVERY man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him.

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

TO do good and to communicate forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

LET your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

LAY not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also.

KNOW ye not that they that minister about sacred things eat of the things of the temple, and they that wait upon the altar have their portion with the altar? Even so did the Lord ordain that they that proclaim the gospel should live of the gospel.

GOD is not unrighteous to forget your work and the love which ye showed toward his name, in that ye ministered unto the saints, and still do minister.

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LET each man do according as he hath purposed in his heart; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver.

HE that giveth, let him do it with liberality; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness. Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord. Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase.

DO unto others as ye would that they should do unto you. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

THERE is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall receive a blessing; and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

BRING ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

AT the king's commandment they made a chest; and they made a proclamation to bring in to the Lord the collection. And all the people rejoiced and

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

brought in gifts, and cast them into the chest, until they had made an end. Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance.

CHARGE them that are rich in this present world, that they be not highminded, nor have their hope set on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, that they be ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on the life which is life indeed.

THE PRAYER AT THE OFFERTORY

ALL things come of thee, O Lord, and only of thine own can we give unto thee; yet wilt thou receive our offerings and bless them to the advancement of thy heavenly kingdom upon the earth. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WE thank thee, O heavenly Father, for all thy goodness unto us, for life and all its blessings. Give us loyal hearts, and grant that, as we bring our gift to thine altar, it may be the symbol of the consecration of all that we are and all that we have to the fulfilment of thy will. And thine shall be the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

ACCCEPT these our offerings, O God, we beseech thee, which now we seek to dedicate to the service of thy holy Church, and grant us ever to have grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEAVENLY Father, who hast given us all things richly to enjoy, graciously deign to receive these our gifts which now we lay upon thine altar, and bless us both in the use and the giving of thy mercies; for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THE PRAYER AT THE OFFERTORY

O GOD, who dost teach us by this act of worship that it is more blessed to give than to receive, graciously accept these our offerings and give us the right spirit both in giving and receiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RECEIVE, O God, we beseech thee, for the service of thy holy Church, these our offerings, which by thy bounty we may give joyfully with the heart, acknowledging in all things thy fatherly goodness. Grant this for Jesus' sake. Amen.

O GOD, to whom we cannot render anything which belongeth not unto thee, accept these our offerings which with grateful hearts we seek to dedicate to thy holy service, and teach us in all things to show the spirit of true liberality; for Jesus' sake. Amen.

RECEIVE, O Lord, we pray thee, these our offerings which we render for the service of thy Church, and for the extension of thy kingdom, and accept with them our hearts and lives which we desire to consecrate anew to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALmighty God, to whom all things belong, but who deignest to accept from us those mercies which thou thyself hast bestowed: accept these

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our offerings, the gifts of the rich and the poor alike, and so consecrate them that thy kingdom may be advanced, and thy name glorified; and this we humbly beg through our only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE PERSONAL USE OF THE MINISTER

To be used before or after the sermon

Before the Sermon

CLEANSE the heart and lips of thy servant, O Father Almighty, as thou didst cleanse the lips of thy prophet of old, with a burning coal from thine altar; and vouchsafe, by thy gracious Spirit, so to purify him that he may worthily and faithfully proclaim thy Holy Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WHO shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Amen.

UNTO thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. Show me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me. For thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. Amen.

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BEHOLD, thou desireth truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. Amen.

X **O**PEN thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law. Make me to understand the way of thy precepts; so shall I talk of thy wondrous works. I have chosen the way of thy truth; thy judgments have I laid up before me. Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Amen.

THY word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Thy testimonies have I taken as a heritage for ever; for they are the rejoicing of my heart. The entrance to thy word giveth light; give me understanding and I shall live. Amen.

JESUS our Master said, To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth; and every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. Grant, O Father, that we be of the truth, that we may hear the voice of the Master, and may treasure his word in faithful hearts. Amen.

SEARCH me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Amen.

MINISTER'S PERSONAL PRAYERS

LET the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. Amen.

After the Sermon

THY word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee. Blessed art thou, O Lord, teach me thy statutes. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth. I will delight myself in thy statutes; I will not forget thy word. Amen.

WE have thought of thy lovingkindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple. According to thy name, O God, so is thy praise unto the ends of the earth. Thy right hand is full of righteousness. This God is our God for ever and ever. Amen.

THOU, O Lord, hast more light and truth yet to break forth out of thy holy word. Open our minds to receive thy new revelations, and make our wills quick to answer thy call to new duties. So shall we fulfil thy holy purpose concerning us, and go forward trusting in thy grace. Amen.

O GOD, Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray thee, this congregation with thy love and favor. Enlighten their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting gospel. Graft

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in their hearts a love of the truth, increase in them true religion, and nourish them with all goodness. Amen.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CLOSE OF WORSHIP

The Nunc Dimittis

✓ **N**OW lettest thou thy servant depart, O Lord, according to thy word, in peace; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

Benedictions

✓ **N**OW unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

3 **W**E look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Therefore, beloved, let us grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory, both now and for ever. Amen.

4 **T**HE God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish,

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strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

5 **N**OW the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

6 **T**HE Lord is faithful who shall stablish you and keep you from evil. Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

7 **T**HE very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

8 **T**HE peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. ~~My~~ God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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THE CLOSE OF WORSHIP

7 **P**EACE be unto the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.

0 **N**OW unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. 70

AS we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Peace be on you, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

2 **B**E perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

3 **W**ATCH ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

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14 **N**OW to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: to God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

15
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THE Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace, now and for ever. Amen.

16 **T**HE peace of God which passeth all understanding, the peace which the world can neither give nor take away, possess your minds and hearts now and evermore. Amen.

17 **T**HE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

18 **T**HE blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

SECTION II
OCCASIONAL SERVICES

THE BAPTISM AND CONSECRATION OF CHILDREN

When the children are to be presented for baptism or consecration, the name of each child in full, with the date of its birth and the names of both parents, should be given to the minister, in writing, at the time of the service.

As the parents bring the children forward, the following words may be read by the minister or chanted by the choir.

Words of Welcome

THE mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; to such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. The promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord your God shall call.

A Scripture Lesson

THESE words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou

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walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

In that hour came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called to him a little child, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye turn, and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me: but whoso shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be sunk in the depth of the sea. Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

They were bringing little children unto Jesus that he should touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not; for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And Jesus took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Jesus said, Rejoice that your names are written in heaven. And Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and

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earth, that thou didst hide these things from the wise and understanding, and didst reveal them unto babes: yea, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in thy sight. Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

An Address to the Congregation

IN this service of baptism and consecration of children, we declare our faith in the universal fatherhood of God. We solemnly recognize these children as God's children, and heirs of the Kingdom of God. We publicly name them as belonging to the great family of the heavenly Father, and receive them into the care of the Church of Christ. We acknowledge our solemn obligation to nurture them in the knowledge of God and in the spirit of Jesus Christ. Therefore do we, in this service, dedicate them to the service of God, trusting that, when they reach the years of discretion, they may confirm this dedication.

A Prayer by the Minister

Let us pray:

ALmighty and everlasting Father, we thank thee for thy gift of life and thy sustaining grace; for thy glory in the world about us and thy presence in our hearts. Though thy Holy Spirit be unseen,

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thou hast given us this visible symbol of water, and we pray thee to bless us in its use. Grant that each one who, in this service of baptism, shall follow the example of Christ our Master, shall receive thy divine influence and be guided into thy heavenly kingdom. We seek, as did our Saviour, to fulfil all righteousness. In his name we make our prayer. Amen.

An Address to the Parents of the Children

DEARLY beloved, in presenting these children (*or this child*) for baptism, you confess your faith in the universal fatherhood of him who said, "All souls are mine," and in the tender care and redeeming love of him who took little children in his arms and blessed them, saying, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." You bring them, acknowledging that they are the gifts of God, and desiring that they may be dedicated to the Christian life.

It is your sacred duty to teach them that they are God's children, that they owe to him the love of their hearts and the service of their lives, and that the beginning of wisdom is to trust and obey him.

Upon you rests the obligation to teach them the way of goodness and truth; that they may learn to hate evil and to love righteousness, and may know the Father as he is revealed in Christ Jesus through obedience and love.

Today you recognize your duty not only by the teaching of your lips but by the holy influence of faith-

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ful lives to seek to reveal to them that grace which is able to save us from our sins, to strengthen us in our labors, to comfort us in our sorrows, and to bring us home to God.

Do you solemnly promise that, with the grace of God assisting you, you will endeavor to fulfil these duties faithfully?

Each of the Parents shall answer,

I do.

An Invocation by the Minister

THE God of all grace, who hath called you unto his eternal glory by Jesus Christ, fulfil every need of yours according to his riches and glory in Christ Jesus, confirming you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Act of Baptism

Then the minister may take each child, in turn, in his arms, if convenient, and shall say to the parents:

By what name shall this child be called?

Then, naming it after them, the minister shall say:

N—, I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Or the minister may say:

N——, I consecrate thee to the Christian life, to the worship of God our Father, and the service of our fellow men, our brothers. Amen.

While saying these words, the minister shall dip his fingers in the water, and shall touch the child's head with the water.

A Prayer by the Minister

The minister may offer a prayer in his own words or may use the following:

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, the protector of all the weak, keep, guard and bless these children (*or this child*) evermore. May *they* be bringers of joy to the home and to the world into which *they* have been born. As *they* grow in years may *they* also grow in strength and beauty of character; and being led in the ways of divine wisdom, stand ever among thy good and faithful servants who rejoice to do thy will.

Endue those into whose care thou hast committed *these children* with a wise, loving, devout, and faithful spirit. Help them to make their home the scene of the highest affections, the noblest discipline, and the purest religion.

As we gladly welcome *these children* into the congregation of Christ's flock, to be under our special

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care, may we help *them* so that *they* shall never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, but shall fight loyally under his banner against all evil, and continue Christ's faithful soldiers and servants unto the end. Amen.

The Benediction

THE Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

While the parents and children are retiring, an appropriate hymn or chant may be sung.

THE RECEPTION OF MEMBERS INTO THE CHURCH

The names of those who are to unite with the church having been read, they shall be arranged in three groups: first, those who have never been baptized; second, those who have been baptized but are to unite with the church on confession of faith; and third, those who are to unite with the church by letter from other churches.

The minister shall call before him those who are to be baptized. Then shall he say to them:

FROM the beginning of the Christian Church, those who wished to be numbered with the followers of Christ were baptized on confession of their faith. Are you now ready to receive such Christian baptism as a symbol of that inward purity of life which you seek, and as a sign that you dedicate yourself to the Christian life, seeking to fulfil your duty in glorifying God and serving your fellow men?

Then shall each person who is to be baptized answer,

I am.

A Prayer by the Minister

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY and everlasting Father, we thank thee for thy gift of life and thy sustaining grace; for thy glory in the world about us and thy presence

THE RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

in our hearts. Though thy Holy Spirit be unseen, thou hast given us this visible symbol of water, and we pray thee to bless us in its use. Grant that each one, who, in this service of baptism, shall follow the example of Christ our Master, shall receive thy divine influence and be guided into thy heavenly kingdom. We seek, as did our Saviour, to fulfil all righteousness. In his name we make our prayer. Amen.

Then shall the minister baptize each of them, saying:

N——, in the use of this water, the symbol of God's Holy Spirit, I baptize you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

While saying these words, the minister shall dip his fingers in the water, and shall touch the person's head with the water.

While those persons who have just been baptized are still standing before him, the minister shall call, to stand with them, those who have been baptized in childhood. Then shall he say to them:

In childhood you were brought into the church on the faith of your parents, and, by baptism, you were recognized as children of God and dedicated to the Christian life. Do you now accept and confirm for yourselves that consecration?

Then shall each of them answer,

I do.

OCCASIONAL SERVICES

An Invocation by the Minister

THE God of all grace, who hath called you into his eternal glory by Jesus Christ, confirm you unto the end, that ye may be faithful in living the Christian life.

Then shall the minister address all those who are to unite with the church on confession of faith:

An Address by the Minister

What shall I render unto the Lord
For all his benefits toward me?
I will take the cup of salvation
And call upon the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows unto the Lord,
Now, in the presence of all his people.

DEARLY beloved, called of God to be his children through Jesus Christ, we give hearty thanks to him, who has opened your eyes to see and your hearts to receive Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, and has inclined you to present yourselves here to enter into the communion and fellowship of his church.

Having truly repented of your sins, you sincerely devote yourselves to the love, obedience, and service of God; you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Master, and confess your purpose to learn of him, to become like him, and to advance his kingdom in the world; you accept his Word as the law of your life,

THE RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

and his Spirit as your comforter and guide, and, trusting in his grace to strengthen you, you promise to do what you can to promote the peace, purity, and prosperity of this church, walking with his disciples in love, and glorifying him by a faithful life. Do you so promise?

Then shall each one answer,

I do.

Then shall the minister say to all:

MAY Christ so strengthen each one of you, baptized in his name, that hereafter you shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, but that you may manfully fight under his banner against all evil, and continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant until life's end.

Then shall the minister read the names of those to be received by letter, if the names have not before been read, and they shall stand in the place appointed; and the minister shall say to them:

An Address by the Minister

KINDRED in Christ, who come acknowledging the vows made when first you declared your faith in Christ, we bid you welcome. We greet you as fellow laborers in his service, and fellow travelers to his promised rest. Do you now cordially unite yourself with this church of Christ, and accept its covenant of mutual service? Do you promise to pray

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and work for its upbuilding and its usefulness; to help in sustaining its worship, its activities and its charities; and to live with us in Christian fellowship? Do you so promise?

Then shall each one answer,

I do.

Then shall the members of the church rise in salutation and welcome, and the minister shall say to all uniting with the church on confession and by letter:

An Address by the Minister

WE then, the members of this church, welcome you with joy into our communion and fellowship. We pledge to you our sympathy, our help, and our prayers that you may evermore increase in the knowledge and love of God. God grant that loving and being loved, serving and being served, blessing and being blessed, we may be prepared while we dwell together on earth for the perfect fellowship of the saints above.

The Right Hand of Fellowship

Then shall the minister say:

YOU are received into membership in this Christian Church, and, as the symbol of our fellowship, I give to each of you my right hand.

Then, while the congregation sings the hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," the minister takes the right hand

THE RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

of each of the new members in his right hand, repeating to each a verse of Scripture, as a watchword. Verses of Scripture, suitable for this purpose, will be found on the following pages.

The Benediction by the Minister

NOW unto him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy; to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, world without end, both now and for ever. Amen.

Or this:

NOW unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us; unto him be the glory in the church by Christ Jesus, through all ages, world without end. Amen.

WATCHWORDS FOR THOSE UNITING WITH THE CHURCH

After the welcome extended by the church and before the benediction, it is customary in many churches for the pastor to give the right hand of fellowship to each of those thus received into membership, and to repeat to each a sentence from the Holy Scriptures which shall be an appropriate watchword for their Christian lives. This may be given to each, written on a card, or in some other form.

EVEN so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. — Matt. 5: 16.

Seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. — Matt. 6: 33.

Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. — Matt. 11: 28.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. — Matt. 11: 29, 30.

Every one therefore who shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven. — Matt. 10: 32.

WATCHWORDS

As therefore ye received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and builded up in him, and stablished in your faith, even as ye were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. — Col. 2: 6, 7.

He that doth not take his cross and follow me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. — Matt. 10: 38, 39.

Whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. — Col. 3: 17.

Continue steadfastly in prayer, watching therein with thanksgiving. — Col. 4: 2.

Walk worthily of God, who calleth you into his own kingdom and glory. — I Thess. 2: 12.

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity. — I Tim. 4: 12.

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on the life eternal, whereunto thou wast called, and didst confess the good confession in the sight of many witnesses. — I Tim. 6: 12.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not; for he is faithful that promised. — Heb. 10: 23.

He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved. — Matt. 24: 13.

As many as received him, to them gave he the right to become children of God, even to them that believe on his name. — John 1: 12.

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I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall not hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. — John 6: 35.

I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. — John 8: 12.

If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. — John 8: 31, 32.

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be. If any man serve me, him will the Father honor. — John 12: 26.

I am come a light unto the world, that whosoever believeth on me may not abide in darkness. — John 12: 46.

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; even as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. — John 13: 34.

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one cometh unto the Father, but by me. — John 14: 6.

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me. — John 14: 21.

If a man love me, he will keep my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. — John 14: 23.

The Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you. — John 14: 26.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot

WATCHWORDS

bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; so neither can ye, except ye abide in me. — John 15: 4.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; and so shall ye be my disciples. — John 15: 8.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. — John 15: 10.

No longer do I call you servants; for the servant knoweth not what his master doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I heard from my Father I have made known unto you. — John 15: 15.

Present yourselves unto God, as alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. — Rom. 6: 13.

As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are sons of God. — Rom. 8: 14.

For none of us liveth to himself, and none dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; or whether we die, we die unto the Lord. — Rom. 14: 7, 8.

Let us follow after the things that make for peace, and the things whereby we may edify one another. — Rom. 14: 19.

God is faithful, through whom ye were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. — I Cor. 1: 9.

Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? — I Cor. 3: 16.

Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. — I Cor. 15: 58.

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Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. — II Cor. 7: 1.

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. — Gal. 6: 2, 9.

Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand. — Eph. 6: 13.

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who worketh in you both to will and to work, for his good pleasure. — Phil. 2: 12, 13.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

This order may be followed when the Lord's Supper is celebrated as a separate service (as on the Thursday evening of Holy Week). When the Lord's Supper follows the morning service of the church, this order may be abbreviated.

The Invitation of the Church

At a public service of worship, preceding the celebration of the Lord's Supper, announcement should be made and an invitation given. In some churches the form of invitation is fixed by vote or custom. The following is a suitable form, widely used:

WE cordially invite to share with us, in this commemoration of his death, all who love our Lord Jesus Christ and confess him before men.

This invitation may also be given at the opening of the service at which the Lord's Supper is celebrated.

An opportunity may be given for those who wish to unite with the church to do so after the opening hymn. (See page 102.)

Hymn

A Scripture Lesson

A suitable lesson, entitled "The Cup of Blessing," follows.

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The Cup of Blessing

EVERY man that striveth in the games exerciseth self-control in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air. But I keep my body under, and bring it into subjection.

Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual food; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man. But God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able to bear; but will, with the temptation, also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, being many, are one bread and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread. For

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I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, 'This cup is the new testament in my blood. This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come.

Hymn

The following words may be sung by the congregation or choir; or they may be read by the minister at his discretion.

"Remember me," the Master said,
On that forsaken night,
When from his side the nearest fled,
And death was close in sight.

Through all the following ages' track
The world remembers yet;
With love and worship gazes back,
And never can forget.

But who of us has seen his face,
Or heard the words he said?
And none can now his look retrace
In breaking of the bread.

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O blest are they who have not seen,
And yet believe him still.
They know him, when his praise they mean,
And when they do his will.

We hear his word along our way;
We see his light above;
Remember when we strive and pray,
Remember when we love.

The minister may then make a brief address appropriate to the service, or at his discretion this address may be made at the close of the service.

Address

Then after uncovering the bread the minister shall offer prayer.

The Prayer of Consecration

WE do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Father, trusting in our own righteousness. Our confidence is in thy manifold and great mercies. Consecrate to us anew these symbols of thy love, given abundantly for our redemption. Fix in our hearts the words of our Divine Master who said, It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit and are life. May he break to us the bread of life and quench our thirst as we drink from his cup of blessing; and may we dwell evermore in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Words of Invitation

The minister may then read one or more of the following sentences:

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him:

COME unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

If ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give good things unto them that ask him.

Even as the Father hath loved me, I also have loved you: abide ye in my love.

Whosoever will be chief among you let him be your servant; even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Then shall be given the invitation of the minister to the people.

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The Call to the Supper

YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandment of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with reverence, faith and thanksgiving and take the Supper of the Lord to your comfort.

Come to this sacred table, not because you must but because you may; come to testify not that you are righteous but that you sincerely love our Lord Jesus Christ and desire to be his true disciples; come, not because you are strong but because you are weak; not because you have any claim on heaven's rewards, but because in your frailty and sin you stand in constant need of heaven's mercy and help; come, not to express an opinion, but to seek a Presence and to pray for a Spirit. And now that the Supper of the Lord is spread before you, lift up your minds and hearts above all selfish fears and cares. Let this bread and this wine be to you the witnesses and signs of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit. Before the throne of the heavenly Father and the cross of the Redeemer make your humble confession of sin, consecrate your lives to Christian obedience and service, and pray for strength to do and to bear the holy and blessed will of God.

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The Prayer of Confession

The minister may then lead in prayer, using the Communion Collect:

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The minister may then offer a prayer of confession, intercession and thanksgiving, using his own words, or the following:

MOST holy and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, led by Jesus Christ we draw near unto thee. We would remember Christ, remember that he has eaten with us the bread and drunk the cup of our life, that he had communion with us in our joy and sorrow, and tasted what it is for a man to die. We would remember the gracious beauty of his life, his obedience unto death, the charity of his cross, and his victory over the world's sin and sorrow. We would remember all that we owe to him, — our greater nearness to thee and to one another, our knowledge of thy fatherhood, and of our human brotherhood; our new and more abounding life; our deeper and more peaceful sense of immortality. Impress and quicken our hearts with the memory of our Master and Saviour, till we learn to feel it to be no task to serve him, no

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hardship to follow him in his obedience, and no burden to carry his cross.

We confess with shame that we often forget our Lord. We forget him in our fear and anxiety, in our distrust and doubt of thee, our heavenly Father. We forget him in our indulgence and weariness in thy service, in our unforgivingness and uncharitableness of disposition, in our selfishness and worldliness. Forgive, O God, our forgetfulness. Help us so to enter into the spirit of this service that we may go out into the world better prepared to remember Christ amid the care and strife and sorrow of our common days; that thus coming to thee, in hunger and thirst after righteousness, we may eat of thy living bread and be filled with the spirit of Jesus Christ, and evermore dwell in him and he in us.

We remember in this sacred hour of Communion the whole family of man, all our brethren everywhere. We remember with affection our friends, and with charity our enemies. We pray thee to comfort the sad, to strengthen the weak, to refresh the weary, to protect the innocent, to reward the faithful, to save the lost, and to reconcile all hearts and lives to thee. Amen.

The Words of Institution

OUR Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat; this is my

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body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me.

After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, 'This cup is the New Testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

As often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come.

The Act of Communion

The minister shall then take the bread and break it in view of the people, saying:

OUR Lord Jesus Christ, on the same night in which he was betrayed, having taken bread, and blessed and broken it, gave it to his disciples: so I, ministering in his name, give this bread unto you. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

After the minister, the people, and the deacons have partaken of the bread, the minister shall take the cup and say:

Our Saviour also took the cup, and gave it to his disciples: so I, ministering in his name, give to you this cup. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

After the minister, the people, and the deacons have partaken of the cup, the minister shall offer prayer.

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Prayer

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, who hast called us to sit together in heavenly places at this feast of thy love, we give thanks to thee for thy great goodness vouchsafed to us in this sacred Communion. Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so partake of the very life of Christ, that he may live again in us. May we be changed into his likeness, that at last he may present us faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. Amen.

Then may be taken an offering for the poor.

During the distribution of the bread and wine and the receiving of the offering, the organ may be played very softly.

Then shall the minister say:

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out unto the Mount of Olives.

Then may follow

The Hymn of Communion

Then while the people sit with bowed heads the minister shall give

The Benediction

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our

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Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Or:

NOW the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

After the Benediction the communicants may remain in silent prayer for a moment.

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DEARLY beloved, we are gathered together here, in the sight of God and in the face of this company, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God, and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly; but reverently, discreetly, soberly, and in the fear of God. Into this holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined.

Then shall the minister say unto the man, —

M — , wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The man shall answer, —

I will.

Then shall the minister say unto the woman, —

N — , wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him in sickness and in health;

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and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The woman shall answer, —

I will.

* *Then shall the minister say, —*

* Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?

Then shall they give their troth to each other in this manner. The minister, receiving the woman at her father's or friend's hands, shall cause the man, with his right hand to take the woman by her right hand, and to say after him as followeth, —

I, M —, take thee N —, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

Then shall the woman likewise say after the minister, —

I, N —, take thee M —, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

The minister, receiving the ring, shall deliver it unto the man, who shall put it on the fourth finger of the left hand

* This may be omitted at the discretion of the minister.

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of the woman. The man, holding it there, shall repeat after the minister, —

With this ring I thee wed, and to thee I will be true,
so long as we both shall live.

If the woman desires to give a ring to the man, the minister shall receive it and deliver it to the woman, who shall put it on the fourth finger of the left hand of the man. The woman, holding it there, shall repeat after the minister, —

With this ring I thee wed, and to thee I will be true,
so long as we both shall live.

Then shall the minister join their right hands together and say, —

FORASMUCH as M. and N. have consented together in holy matrimony, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth, each to the other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving a ring (*or rings*) and by joining their right hands, therefore as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and with the authority conferred upon me by this Commonwealth (*or State*) I pronounce that they are man and wife.

Then shall the minister offer this prayer:

O ETERNAL God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, send thy blessing upon these thy

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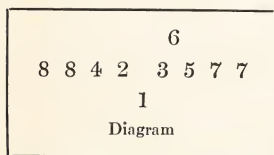
servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name. Give them bounteously of thy grace that they may surely keep the vows which they have made and this covenant between them. Grant that they may ever remain in perfect love and loyalty together and live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the minister pronounce a benediction. He may use these words:

THE Lord bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

DIRECTIONS FOR A CHURCH WEDDING

When the wedding procession has been formed, the minister is the first to go to his place, using a side aisle or entrance, and the bridegroom and attendant follow almost immediately. The bride, with her left hand takes her father's right arm, and they are the last persons in the wedding procession. The positions of the principal persons in the wedding ceremony are indicated in the diagram. After "giving away the bride" the father takes his place in the front pew.



- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1, minister | 3, bride |
| 2, bridegroom | 5, maid of honor |
| 4, his attendant | 6, bride's father |
| 8, 8, ushers | 7, 7, bridesmaids |

A SERVICE FOR THE CONSECRATION OF A HOME

Among Christian people, there is a growing custom of consecrating a home. Such a service may well be held in a new home, with the kindling of "the first fire" on the hearth. This continues the old ceremony of "the hanging of the crane" in the new house, which symbolized the beginning of home-life in that house.

In this modern service for the consecration of a home, a few simple symbols are used. These are, —

First, THE CANDLE, a symbol of light;

Second, THE FIRE, a symbol of home life;

Third, THE SALT, a symbol of the protection of life;

Fourth, THE WATER, a symbol of the Divine Spirit;

Fifth, THE BREAD, a symbol of hospitality.

If there be a fireplace in the house, wood should be laid upon the hearth, with an abundance of kindling, but the fire is not to be lighted until the proper time comes in the service. Lacking a fireplace, a brazier may be used as a substitute, or the actual kindling of the fire may be omitted.

In front of the fireplace a small table should be placed for the other symbols. Place on the table an unlighted candle and matches. Place also a small open dish with common salt; a pitcher of water and a goblet; and a plate with bread on it.

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The minister who conducts the service should be seated beside the table, facing the fireplace, the table being at his right hand.

When the members of the household and guests assemble, they should sit or stand, facing also the fireplace. The minister should provide the head of the house with at least one copy of that part of this service which contains the response, "WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE," so that the responses may be given at the appropriate time.

The ACTION of the service is significant, and should be made emphatic. The candle is to be LIGHTED. The fire is to be KINDLED (the minister kneels while he does this). The salt is to be SCATTERED. The water is to be POURED. The bread is to be BROKEN. Each action is performed at its own proper time as the service progresses. When all is ready, the minister reads the INTERPRETATION and the appropriate poetry.

Interpretation

DEARLY beloved, members of this household and guests: We are assembled here to dedicate this Christian home, in the hope that it may be a place of happiness, adding to life's meaning for all who shall call it "home."

Home was the first institution which God, our Father, established for his children. Before the Church and before any form of civil government, the home was a divine institution. Love was the first bond which linked human lives together, and the home was its expression. The home became the nursery of

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religion, of education, of civilization, of culture, of beauty, of progress. In all the advance of human life, the home is still the greatest of human institutions and the most vital expression of the Divine Presence in human life.

In primitive homes, our far-off ancestors found shelter from the elements. There they lighted the candle, kindled the fire, protected their food with salt, poured water that thirst might be quenched, and broke bread that hunger might be satisfied. Home-life and hospitality were expressed in these simple things. Today they are our picturesque and expressive symbols by which we make vivid the meaning of the life of this home. In this service we consecrate this home to human happiness and to faith in the Divine Father. Let us hear a message from God's Word.

Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain
that build it.

Through wisdom is a house builded,
And by understanding it is established,
And by knowledge are the chambers filled with all
precious and pleasant riches.

Let thy work appear unto thy servants,
And thy glory unto thy children;
And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us;
And establish thou the work of our hands upon us;
Yea, the work of our hands, establish thou it.

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The Vision of a Poet

I'm building me a wonder-house,
 Apart from busy ways;
And there I mean to shelter me
 In gladness all my days.

The fabric is the love-of-friends,
 Cemented strong and stout;
With four-square walls of loyalty
 To keep unkindness out.

The porch is broad, the threshold wide;
 I'll have no bolt nor bar;
And for a hospitable sign
 The door shall stand ajar.

The light of trust and sympathy
 In every nook will shine,
And laughter like a breeze shall blow
 Through all this house of mine.

The house will never be complete;
 But adding one by one
The soaring gables, builded firm,
 I'll rear it toward the sun,

Until the turrets pierce the clouds
 And starry cressets wear;
When angels walk upon the roof,
 And God comes down the stair.

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THE CEREMONY OF THE CANDLE

If this service is conducted in the evening, the lights in the room may be turned out at this point, so that the lighting of the candle shall be more vivid.

The minister lights the candle and then reads:

A Message from the Bible

IN the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. And God said, Let there be light. And there was light.

There was the true light, even the light which lighteth every man coming into the world.

Ye are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a basket, but on a stand; and it shineth unto all that are in the house. Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will lighten my darkness.

The Vision of a Poet

In that far-off dim dawn
When chaos reigned, and earth was still
A formless void in darkness deep,
The Spirit, brooding o'er the void,
Awoke creation from its sleep
With that high call, —
Let there be light.

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And instant from the depths of night
Sprang forth the mystic seven-fold beam,
Ablaze with wonders bright.
God in his wisdom all supreme
As his first act created Light.

So unto Him give praise,
Praise without ceasing! Praise!
That in his wisdom infinite,
When making Man for His delight,
Before he dowered him with sight,
He filled the world with radiance bright,
Lest, dulled with fear and void of hope,
With stumbling footsteps he should grope
Through an eternal night.
To God eternal, praise!
Praise without ceasing! Praise!
That in his goodness infinite
He blessed the world with Light.
Subserve it to his high employ,
And see thou use it right!

THE CEREMONY OF THE FIRE

The minister reads:

The Interpretation of Fire

OF primitive man it was written: He heweth him down cedars, and taketh the cypress and the oak. Then shall it be for a man to burn: for he will take thereof, and warm himself; yea, he kindleth it and

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baketh bread. He burneth part thereof in the fire; with part thereof he eateth flesh, yea, he roasteth roast, and is satisfied; yea, he warmeth himself and saith, Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire.

Very early in human life the discovery was made that fire could be a dangerous enemy; and another discovery was made, that fire could be a wonderful ally. The fireplace, in the shelter of a home, was one of the very early attempts to control this strange element and to make it useful. Fire enters into the religion of primitive men, for the ascending flames suggest the aspirations of the soul. This thought continues in the beautiful hymn, written nearly two centuries ago, —

Rivers to the ocean run,
Nor stay in all their course;
Fire ascending seeks the sun;
Both speed them to their source.
So my soul, derived from God,
Pants to view his glorious face;
Upwards tends to his abode
To rest in his embrace.

The minister then kneels and lights the fire in the fireplace. When it is burning brightly, he reads the poem which follows:

Kneel always when you light a fire!
Kneel reverently, and thankful be
For God's unfailing charity,
And on the ascending flame inspire

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A little prayer, that shall upbear
The incense of your thankfulness
For this sweet grace
Of warmth and light!
For here again is sacrifice
For your delight.

Within the wood,
That lived a joyous life
Through sunny days and rainy days
And winter storm and strife, —

.
Within the coal,
Where forests lie entombed,
Oak, elm, and chestnut, beech and red pine bole, —
God shrined his sunshine, and entombed
For you these stores of light and heat,
Your life-joys to complete.
These all have died that you might live;
Yours now the high prerogative
To loose their long captivities, —
To give them new sweet span of life
And fresh activities.

Kneel always when you light a fire!
Kneel reverently,
And grateful be
To God for his unfailing charity!

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There is something about a torch-lit fire
That kindles the tinder of lost desire;

That wakes in the rose-gray glow of embers
The flaming April that love remembers;

The summer haze of toil and trouble,
Becoming an evanescent bubble;

The frosts . . . ? They, too, are only seeming;
The fire burns on; it is not dreaming,

But truth that speaks of the fire-lit dome
Of sky and stars as heaven and home.

THE CEREMONY OF THE SALT

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men.

Every oblation of thy meal-offering shalt thou season with salt; neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meal-offering: with all thine oblations thou shalt offer salt.

For every one shall be salted with fire; for every offering shall be salted with salt. Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace one with another.

The minister shall then sprinkle salt upon the bread that is upon the table, and scatter salt also in the fire. Then he reads, —

THE CONSECRATION OF A HOME

The Interpretation of Salt

THANK God for the precious covenant of salt; for salt is the ally of life for the preservation of food and as the symbol of the healing of our diseases, the symbol of that peace which heals our strife. God grant us here his work of healing, that this house be a place of health and peace. May no ill invade this habitation, and no strife, no fear, no anxiety find entrance at its portals.

We have built a house that is not for time's throwing;
We have gained a peace, unshaken by pain forever.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee.

THE CEREMONY OF THE WATER

The minister shall pour water from the pitcher into the goblet, and then read, —

A Message from the Bible

THOU visitest the earth, and waterest it; thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water. Thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it; thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly, thou settlest the furrows thereof, thou makest it soft with showers, thou blessest the springing thereof.

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Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

A Message from a Poet

Crystal clear from the throne of God
Flows the river, the shining river,
Forever full, forever free,
It floweth everlastingly
Through the banks of time to the boundless sea,
Of love indwelling Eternity.

Praise to God in running water,
Gleaming, glancing, running water!
Crystal clear its joyous cheer,
Dreaming, dancing, running water;
Amber-bright all slashed with white,
Sweet, romancing, running water;
Give God praise for all fair water!
His sweet grace is running water.

God's sweet grace is running water,
All fair sparkling, running water, —
Bubbling spring from rock or sod,
Goodly thing, the gift of God!
Babbling praises as it flows,
Gathering graces as it grows,
Scattering joys where'er it goes, —
Praise to God in running water!

THE CONSECRATION OF A HOME

THE CEREMONY OF THE BREAD

The minister shall take bread from the table, and, holding it in both hands, shall break it. He then reads, —

The Interpretation of Bread

ONE of the most primitive acts of hospitality is the sharing of bread. To break bread together, so that two or more men ate from the same loaf, being nourished by the same food, was a symbol of one common life which they shared.

The most familiar prayer, among Christian people, includes the petition, —

Give us this day our daily bread,

and this prayer encircles the earth every day unceasingly. The answer, too, comes unceasingly, for

Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour the mill;
And back of the mill is the wheat and the shower,
And the sun and the Father's will.

The Message of a Poet

Each meal should be a sacramental feast, —
A Eucharist each breaking of the bread,
Wherein we meet again our Great High Priest,
And pledge new troth to our exalted Head.

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For all we eat doth come of sacrifice, —
Life out of death, — since all we eat must yield
Life for our living, — and yet nothing dies
But in its giving finds its life fulfilled.

The wheat, the plant, the beast, and man all give
Each of his best, God's purpose to maintain,
And all subserve the end for which all live,
And pass, — to live more worthily again.

The following sentences and responses may be copied by the minister, before the service, and put into the hands of the members of the household, that they may give the responses appropriately, thus joining in the act of dedication of the house.

IN the love of strength and of beauty, in confidence
in good foundations and the strength of its
timbers,

(*Response*) WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE.

With a prayer that it be defended from fire and
storm and earthquake and all manner of calamity,

(*Response*) WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE.

With thanks to God for light which comes through
our windows and for his beauty in trees and the sea
and the mountains,

(*Response*) WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE.

THE CONSECRATION OF A HOME

With joy in our door which opens to those who knock; with joy in friends who share our candle and our fire and who break bread with us,

(Response) WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE.

To all the sweetness of home life and all the precious hopes of future happiness through God's unmeasured gift of the years,

(Response) WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE.

THE LORD BLESS US AND KEEP US, THE LORD CAUSE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON US AND BE GRACIOUS UNTO US, THE LORD LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF HIS COUNTENANCE UPON US, AND GIVE US HIS PEACE, THIS DAY AND EVERMORE. AMEN.

A Prayer

GOD bless this house and all who enter herein. Bless thou this house in its deep foundations, even in the rocks abiding in unbroken darkness in the earth. Bless thou this house in its walls which stand in strength against storm and wind and all that walks in darkness. Bless thou this house in its sheltering roof and all its ample breadth, fit symbol of thy brooding care and thine everlasting arms around us, beneath us and above. Bless thou this house in all its chambers and all the well-loved things of daily life assembled within them. Bless thou this house in its light, its warmth, its cheer, its bread of hospitality,

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its cup for the thirsty, its gift of rest and of sleep for the weary. Bless thou this house which stands at the end of many journeys, fulfilling many hopes, ministering to many needs; this house of love and hope and friendship. Be thou, O Christ, a guest beside its fire and at its table, that from thee we may have light and that thou shalt break to us the bread of life, and of life eternal. And may the peace of God which passeth all understanding, that peace which the world can neither give nor take away, abide in our hearts this day and evermore. Amen.

THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF A MINISTER

When the hour has come for the public service, the scribe of the council may read the minutes of its session, or the moderator of the council may make a brief statement of its action regarding the candidate. The service may then proceed in the following order.

Hymn

Call to Worship and Invocation

HOW beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! The voice of thy watchmen! They lift up their voice, together do they sing; for they shall see, eye to eye, when the Lord returneth to Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, send down upon all pastors and other ministers, and upon the

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congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

An Anthem May be Sung by the Choir Reading of the Scriptures

Suitable lessons from the Old and New Testaments follow.

A Lesson from the Old Testament

THE CONSECRATION OF A MAN OF GOD

MOSES spake unto the Lord, saying, Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation, who may go out before them, and who may come in before them, and who may lead them out, and who may bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord be not as sheep which have no shepherd. And the Lord said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay thy hand upon him; and give him a charge in their sight.

And thou shalt put of thine honor upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may obey; at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the children of

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Israel with him, even all the congregation. And Moses did as the Lord commanded him; and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: and he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the Lord commanded Moses. And he said, Be strong and of good courage; for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I swore unto them: and I will be with thee.

The Lord spake unto Joshua saying, As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong, and of good courage; for thou shalt cause this people to inherit the land which I swore unto their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, to observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest have good success whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage; be not affrighted, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Then the people spake unto Joshua, saying, All that thou hast commanded us we will do and whithersoever thou sendest us we will go. According as we

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hearkened unto Moses in all things so will we hearken unto thee: only the Lord thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.

A Lesson from the New Testament

THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

JESUS went about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of disease and all manner of sickness. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were distressed and scattered, as sheep not having a shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest.

And it came to pass in these days, that he went out into the mountain to pray; and he continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, he called his disciples; and he chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles. These twelve Jesus sent forth, and charged them, saying, Go not into any way of the Gentiles, and enter not into any city of the Samaritans: but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons: freely ye received, freely give. Get you no gold, nor silver, nor brass in

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your purses; no wallet for your journey, neither two coats, nor shoes, nor staff: for the laborer is worthy of his food. And into whatsoever city or village ye shall enter, search out who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go forth. And as ye enter into the house, salute it. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.

He that doth not take his cross and follow after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward: and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you he shall in no wise lose his reward.

And it came to pass when Jesus had finished commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and preach in their cities. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read.

And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And he opened the book and found the place wherein it was written,

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The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
Because he anointed me to preach good tidings to
the poor:

He hath sent me to proclaim release to the captives,
And recovering of sight to the blind,
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down: and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, Today hath this scripture been fulfilled in your ears. And all bare him witness, and wondered at the words of grace which proceeded out of his mouth.

Prayer

FOR THE CHURCH AND THE MINISTRY

Let us pray:

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldst be pleased to make thy ways known to them, thy saving health to all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess to be Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. We commend to thy fatherly goodness all who are in any ways afflicted in mind,

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body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. Amen.

O GOD, our heavenly Father, who didst send thy Son, not to condemn the world but that the world through him might be saved: we beseech thee to hear us. May it please thee to rule and guide thy holy Church in the right way, and to illuminate all ministers of the gospel with true knowledge and understanding of thy word; and grant that, both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth and proclaim it unto men.

Give to all thy people increase of grace, to hear gladly thy word, to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. Help us to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, not being entangled with any yoke of bondage; knowing that the kingdom of God is not meat or drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

O God, who didst send thy word to speak in the prophets and live in thy Son, and who didst appoint thy Church to be witness of divine things in all the world, revive the purity and deepen the power of its testimony; and, through the din of earthly interests and the storm of human passions, let it make the still small voice of thy Spirit inly felt. Nearer and nearer may thy kingdom come from age to age. By the

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cleansing spirit of thy Son, make this world a fitting forecourt to that sanctuary not made with hands, where our life is hid with Christ in God. Amen.

Hymn

Prayer of Ordination or of Installation

If the candidate has not been ordained to the Christian ministry, there should be the ceremony of the laying on of hands, with appropriate prayer. If previously ordained, the prayer should be a prayer of installation as pastor of the church.

Right Hand of Fellowship

Charge to the Pastor

Charge to the Congregation

If the candidate is being ordained to the Christian ministry, but is not being installed as pastor of the congregation, this charge to the congregation is to be omitted.

Other Addresses or a Brief Sermon

or there may be a celebration of the

Lord's Supper

Hymn

Concluding Prayer and Benediction

(by the minister who has just been ordained or installed)

THE CONSECRATION OF A TEACHER

Hymn

Sentences and Invocation

O PEN thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law; quicken thou me according to thy word. Teach me; O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Let us pray:

W E thank thee, O Father, Source of Light, for that word of our Master who said, Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. Grant thy blessing upon thy servant who stands before thee; and may he light his torch at thy flame of truth and carry that flame to those who sit in darkness. Amen.

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An Exhortation

FORGET not my law, but let thine heart keep my commandments; for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thy heart. So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes. Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

She is more precious than rubies; and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. It was by wisdom that the Lord founded the earth; it was by understanding that he established the heavens; it is by his knowledge that the depths of the sea are moved, and the clouds drop down the dew. Let them not depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion.

THE CONSECRATION OF A TEACHER

A Scripture Lesson

A PULPIT OF WOOD

ALL the people gathered themselves together as one man into the broad place that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded to Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people (for he was above all the people); and when he opened it, all the people stood up. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God; and all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with the lifting up of their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. And he read therein before the broad place that was before the water gate from early morning until mid-day, in the presence of the men and the women, and of those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

And the Levites caused the people to understand the law: and the people stood in their place. And they read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly; and they gave the sense, so that they understood the reading.

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Interpretation

THE construction and use of that pulpit of wood marks a great advance in the development of religion. Primitive people were familiar with an altar of stone or metal which would not burn, but upon which a fire was kindled in order that bloody sacrifices might be burned. But a pulpit of wood was built in order that an appeal might be made to the *intelligence* of the people and that *instruction* might be offered to them. It is a great day, in the progress of religion, when people approach it with *understanding*. It means the establishment of a teaching ministry; it means that the religious leader is a *teacher* instead of a *priest*.

When the Pilgrims and Puritans began to establish their churches on American soil, religion entered upon a new era. It was a common custom for a church to have a pastor and also a teacher. Out of Pilgrim and Puritan ideals have come the greatest religious and educational movements, as well as the political freedom, of this Republic. From them, we of today have received a priceless heritage.

Today there is a new emphasis on a *teaching* ministry; on the *intelligent* approach to religion; on the movement to approach the minds of boys and girls by religious *education*. A new profession has been created, that of the religious educator; yet it has behind it a great tradition and it inherits ideals that have cost much. You have the high privilege of sharing in this

THE CONSECRATION OF A TEACHER

work, of being one of a company of torchbearers, fulfilling the words of the Master, Ye are the light of the world. May God bless and help you in this work.

The Covenant of the Workers

The minister may give to each person who is being consecrated in this service, a typewritten copy of this covenant, or may repeat it phrase by phrase that the persons being consecrated may repeat it after him.

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I humbly promise him and this church that I will be faithful, to the extent of my ability, in the performance of all known duties and responsibilities devolving upon me as a worker in this church school. I will strive most earnestly to be regular in attendance, diligent in study, careful in preparation for my work, loyal to the established rules of the school, consistent in setting a good example before the members of the school, and faithful to this church; and I will seek most earnestly, as the goal of religious education, to develop Christian character in those whom I may influence.

Prayer by the Minister

Hymn

Address

Hymn

Benediction

SECTION III
FUNERAL SERVICES

A GENERAL FUNERAL SERVICE

An Ascription

Thy years, O God, are throughout all generations. Of old hast thou laid the foundations of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.

Let us pray:

O GOD, before whose face the generations rise and pass away, age after age the living seek thee and find that of thy faithfulness there is no end. Our fathers in their pilgrimage walked by thy guidance and rested on thy compassion; still to us, their children, be thou the cloud by day, the fire by night. Where but in thee have we a covert from the storm or shadow from the heat of life? In our manifold temptations, thou alone knowest and art ever nigh; in sorrow, thy pity revives the fainting soul; in our prosperity and ease, it is thy Spirit only that can wean us

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from our pride and keep us low. O thou sole source of peace and righteousness, take now the veil from every heart, and join us in one communion with thy prophets and saints who have trusted in thee and were not ashamed. Not of our worthiness, but of thy tender mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Reading

It singeth low in every heart,
We hear it each and all, —
A song of those who answer not,
However we may call.
They throng the silence of the breast;
We see them as of yore, —
The kind, the true, the brave, the sweet,
Who walk with us no more.

'Tis hard to take the burden up,
When these have laid it down;
They brightened all the joys of life,
They softened every frown.
But oh, 'tis good to think of them
When we are troubled sore;
Thanks be to God that such have been,
Although they are no more!

More homelike seems the vast unknown,
Since they have entered there;
To follow them were not so hard,
Wherever they may fare.

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They cannot be where God is not,
On any sea or shore;
Whate'er betides, thy love abides,
Our God, for evermore!

LET not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And, if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters; he restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world,

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even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. Thou carriest the years away as with a flood. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. O satisfy us early with thy mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands, establish thou it.

I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my spirit rejoices. My flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in the grave, neither wilt thou suffer thy godly one to see corruption. Thou wilt show me the path of life; in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. As for me, I shall behold thy face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness.

While in the maddening maze of things,
And tossed by storm and flood,
To one fixed trust my spirit clings:
I know that God is good.

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I long for household voices gone,
For vanished smiles I long,
But God hath led my dear ones on,
And he can do no wrong.

I know not what the future hath
Of marvel or surprise,
Assured alone that life and death
His mercy underlies.

And if my heart and flesh are weak
To bear an untried pain,
The bruised reed he will not break,
But strengthen and sustain.

And so beside the Silent Sea
I wait the muffled oar;
No harm from him can come to me
On ocean or on shore.

I know not where his islands lift
Their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond his love and care.

Address

The minister may offer a prayer in his own words or use a prayer from the section entitled An Order of Prayer, page 223.

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Prayer

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as, moving, seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

Benediction

NOW the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

TOPICAL READINGS

I. The Good Fight

Thou, O man of God, follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, that thou keep this commandment without spot, without reproach, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting.

Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for mastery, he is not crowned except he strive lawfully. Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things. Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead, according to my gospel.

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in

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Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: if we suffer, we shall also reign with him. I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Calmly, calmly lay him down:
He hath fought a noble fight,
He hath battled for the right,
He hath won a fadeless crown.

Memories, all too bright for tears,
Crowd around us from the past:
He was faithful to the last,
Faithful through long, toilsome years.

All that makes for human good,
Freedom, righteousness and truth, —
These, the objects of his youth,
Unto age he still pursued.

Kind and gentle was his soul,
Yet it had a glorious might:
Clouded minds it filled with light,
Wounded spirits it made whole.

TOPICAL READINGS

Calmly, calmly lay him down:

He hath fought the noble fight,

He hath battled for the right,

He hath won the fadeless crown.

2. Ministering Spirits

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

There is a state unknown, unseen,

Where parted souls must be;

And but a step doth lie between

That world of souls and me.

I see no light, I hear no sound,

When midnight shades are spread;

Yet angels pitch their tents around

And guard my quiet bed.

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The things unseen, O God, reveal;
My spirit's vision clear,
Till I shall feel and see and know
That those I love are near.

Impart the faith that soars on high,
Beyond this earthly strife;
That holds sweet converse with the sky,
And lives eternal life.

How pure at heart and sound in head,
With what divine affections bold
Should be the man whose thought would hold
An hour's communion with the dead.

In vain shalt thou, or any, call
The spirits from their golden day,
Except, like them, thou too canst say,
My spirit is at peace with all.

They haunt the silence of the breast,
Imaginations calm and fair,
The memory like a cloudless air,
The conscience as a sea at rest:

But when the heart is full of din,
And doubt beside the portal waits,
They can but listen at the gates,
And hear the household jar within.

TOPICAL READINGS

3. Man Shares God's Eternity

Ungodly men have said within themselves, reasoning not aright,
Short and sorrowful is our life;
And there is no healing when a man cometh to life's end,
And none was ever known that returned out of the grave;
Because by mere chance were we born,
And hereafter we shall be as though we had never been:
Because the breath in our nostrils is as smoke,
And reason is as a spark kindled by the beating of our heart,
Which, being extinguished, the body shall be turned to ashes,
And the spirit shall be dispersed as thin air;
And our name shall be forgotten in time,
And our life shall pass away as the traces of a cloud.

Thus reasoned they, and they were led astray,
For their wickedness blinded them.
They knew not the mysteries of God,
Neither hoped they for the wages of holiness,
Nor did they judge that there is a prize for blameless souls;
Because God created man for incorruption,
And made him an image of his own eternity.

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For the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
And no torment shall touch them.
In the eyes of the foolish they seem to have died,
And their departure is accounted to be their hurt,
And their journeying away from us to be their ruin.
But they are in peace;
For, even if in the sight of men they be punished,
Their hope is full of immortality.
Having borne a little chastening, they shall receive
 great good;
Because God made trial of them, and found them
 worthy of himself,
As gold in the furnace he proved them.
They that trust in him shall understand truth,
And the faithful shall abide with him in love,
Because grace and mercy are to his chosen.

O Time and Change! — with hair as gray
As was my sire's that winter day,
How strange it seems, with so much gone
Of life and love, to still live on!
Ah, brother! only I and thou
Are left of all that circle now, —
The dear home faces whereupon
That fitful firelight paled and shone.

Henceforward, listen as we will,
The voices of that hearth are still;
Look where we may, the wide earth o'er,
Those lighted faces smile no more.

TOPICAL READINGS

We tread the paths their feet have worn,
We sit beneath their orchard trees,
We hear, like them, the hum of bees
And rustle of the bladed corn;
We turn the pages that they read,
Their written words we linger o'er,
But in the sun they cast no shade,
No voice is heard, no sign is made,
No step is on the conscious floor!
Yet Love will dream, and Faith will trust,
(Since He who knows our need is just,)
That somehow, somewhere, meet we must.
Alas for him who never sees
The stars shine through his cypress-trees!
Who, hopeless, lays his dead away,
Nor looks to see the breaking day
Across the mournful marbles play!
Who hath not learned, in hours of faith,
The truth to flesh and sense unknown,
That Life is ever lord of Death,
And Love can never lose its own!

4. Virtue Is Immortal

Wisdom exalteth her sons,
And sustaineth them that seek her.
He that loveth her loveth life;
And they that turn to her early shall be filled with
gladness.
He that holdeth her fast shall inherit glory;
And where she entereth, the Lord will bless.

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Let us now praise famous men,
And our fathers that begat us.
The Lord manifested in them great glory,
Even his mighty rule from the beginning.
Such as did bear rule in their kingdoms,
And were men renowned for their power,
Giving counsel by their understanding,
Such as brought tidings in their foresight,
Leaders of the people by their counsels,
And, by their understanding, fit leaders of the
people;
Wise were their words in their instruction.

Such as sought out musical tunes,
And set forth verses in writing;
Men furnished richly with ability,
Living peaceably in their habitations.
All these were honored in their generations,
And were the glory of their times.
There be some of them who have left a name behind
them
To declare their praises.
And there be some who have no memorial;
But these were men of mercy,
Whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten.
The glory of their work shall not be blotted out.
Their bodies are buried in peace,
But their name liveth to all generations.
The people will declare their wisdom,
And the congregation will tell of their praise.

TOPICAL READINGS

The memory of virtue is immortal,
Because it is recognized both before God and before
men.

When it is present, men take example of it,
And, when it is departed, they earnestly desire it.
Throughout all time it marcheth, crowned in triumph,
Victorious in the strife for the prizes that are unde-
filed.

For the righteous shall live for ever,
And in the Lord is their reward,
And the care for them with the Most High.
Therefore shall they receive the crown of royal dig-
nity

And the diadem of beauty from the Lord's hand;
Because with his right hand shall he cover them,
And with his arm shall he shield them.

5. Houses Not Made with Hands

Now he that doth establish us with you, in Christ,
and hath anointed us, is God who also sealed us,
and gave us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.
Our sufficiency is of God, who also hath made us
sufficient as partakers of a new covenant, not of the
letter but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the
spirit giveth life. Now the Lord is the Spirit; and
where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But
we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a glass the
glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image
from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

FUNERAL SERVICES

God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also through Jesus, and shall present us with you. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet our inward man is renewed day by day.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. For we know that, if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Therefore to whom turn I but to thee, the ineffable
Name?

Builder and maker, thou, of houses not made with
hands!

What, have fear of change from thee who art ever the
same?

Doubt that thy power can fill the heart that thy power
expands?

TOPICAL READINGS

There shall never be one lost good! What was shall
live as before;

The evil is null, is nought, is silence implying sound;
What was good shall be good, with, for evil, so much
good more;

On the earth the broken arcs; in the heaven a perfect
round.

All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall
exist;

Not its semblance but itself; no beauty, nor good, nor
power

Whose voice has gone forth, but each survives for the
melodist

When eternity affirms the conception of an hour.

The high that proved too high, the heroic for earth too
hard,

The passion that left the ground to lose itself in the
sky,

Are music sent up to God by the lover and the bard;
Enough that he heard it once: we shall hear it by-
and-by.

And what is our failure here but a triumph's evidence
For the fulness of the days? Have we withered or
agonized?

Why else was the pause prolonged but that singing
might issue thence?

Why rushed the discords in but that harmony should
be prized?

FUNERAL SERVICES

Sorrow is hard to bear, and doubt is slow to clear,
Each sufferer says his say, his scheme of the weal and
 woe:

But God has a few of us whom he whispers in the ear;
The rest may reason and welcome: 'tis we musicians
 know.

6. Honor the Physician

Honor the physician, according to thy need of him,
 with the honors due unto him;

For verily the Lord hath created him.

For from the Most High cometh healing;

And even from the king he shall receive honors.

The skill of the physician shall lift up his head,

And in the sight of great men he shall be admired.

The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth,

And he hath given skill unto men,

That they might be glorified in his marvelous works.

With them doth he heal a man, and taketh away his
 pain.

His works shall not be brought to an end,

And from him is peace upon the face of the earth.

Pray unto the Lord and he shall heal thee,

Give place unto the physician for verily the Lord hath
 created him.

Let him not go from thee, for thou hast need of him;
There is a time when in his very hands is the issue of
 good.

TOPICAL READINGS

He also shall beseech the Lord that he may prosper him

In giving relief and in healing for the maintenance of life.

My son, let thy tears fall over the dead,

And as one that suffereth grievously, make thy lamentation;

But give not thy heart unto sorrow, for him thou shalt not profit.

When the dead is at rest, let his remembrance be peace;

And be thou comforted for him, when his spirit departeth from him.

7. Mr. Valiant-for-Truth

In the closing pages of Pilgrim's Progress, Bunyan describes the "land of Beulah," in which the pilgrims enjoy a brief period of rest after the hardship of their pilgrimage, and wait for the summons to enter the Celestial City.

After this I beheld, until they were come unto the land of Beulah, where the sun shineth night and day. Here, because they were weary, they betook themselves awhile to rest. And because this country was common for pilgrims, and because the orchards and vineyards that were here belonged to the King of the Celestial Country, therefore they were licensed to make bold with any of his things. But a little soon refreshed them there. . . .

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Then the pilgrims got up and walked to and fro; but how their ears were now filled with heavenly noises, and their eyes delighted with celestial visions! . . . In this place there was a record kept of the names of them that had been pilgrims of old, and a history of all the famous acts that they had done. . . .

After this it was noised abroad that Mr. Valiant-for-truth was taken with a summons, by the same post as the other, and had this for a token that the summons was true: 'That his pitcher was broken at the fountain.' When he understood it, he called for his friends and told them of it. Then said he, — "I am going to my fathers, and though with great difficulty I am got hither, yet now do I not repent me of all the trouble I have been at to arrive where I am. My sword I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me that I have fought His battles who will be my rewarder."

When the day that he must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the riverside, into which as he went he said, — 'Death, where is thy sting?' And as he went down deeper, he said, — 'Grave, where is thy victory?' *So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side. . . .* But glorious it was to see how the open region was filled with horses and chariots, with trumpeters and pipers, with singers and players on stringed instru-

TOPICAL READINGS

ments, to welcome the pilgrims as they went up, and followed one another in at the beautiful gate of the city.

At the midnight, in the silence of the sleep-time,
When you set your fancies free,
Will they pass to where — by death, fools think, im-
prisoned —
Low he lies who once so loved you, whom you loved so,
— Pity me?

Oh to love so, be so loved, yet so mistaken!
What had I on earth to do
With the slothful, with the mawkish, the unmanly?
Like the aimless, helpless, hopeless, did I drivel
— Being — who?

One who never turned his back, but marched breast
forward;
Never doubted clouds would break;
Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong
would triumph;
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake.

No, at noonday in the bustle of man's work-time
Greet the unseen with a cheer!
Bid him forward, breast and back as either should be;
“ Strive and thrive! ” cry “ Speed, — fight on, fare
ever

There as here! ”

FUNERAL SERVICES

8. I Shall Not Die, But Live

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; because his mercy endureth for ever. Let them now that fear the Lord say that his mercy endureth for ever. I called upon the Lord in distress; and the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear; what can man do unto me? It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.

The Lord is my strength and my song, and is become my salvation. The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the dwelling places of the righteous. The right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly. The right hand of the Lord is lifted up; the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly.

I shall not die but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord hath chastened me sore; but he hath not given me over unto death. Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord, into which the righteous shall enter. I will praise thee, for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee. Thou art my God, and I will exalt thee. O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

It must be so; — Plato, thou reason'st well —
Else whence this pleasing hope, this fond desire,

TOPICAL READINGS

This longing after immortality?
Or whence this secret dread, and inward horror
Of falling into nought? Why shrinks the Soul
Back on herself, and startles at destruction?
'Tis the Divinity that stirs within us;
'Tis Heaven itself that points out a hereafter
And intimates eternity to man. . . .
Here will I hold. If there's a Power above us,
(And that there is, all Nature cries aloud
Through all her works) He must delight in virtue;
And that which He delights in must be happy. . . .
The Soul, secured in her existence, smiles
At the drawn dagger, and defies its point.
The stars shall fade away, the Sun himself
Grow dim with age, and Nature sink in years;
But thou shalt flourish in immortal youth,
Unhurt amidst the war of elements,
The wreck of matter and the crash of worlds.

9. The Way Everlasting

O Lord, thou hast searched me and known me.
Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising;
thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou
compasses my path and my lying down, and art
acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word
in my tongue but lo, O Lord, thou knowest it
altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before,
and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is
too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain
unto it.

FUNERAL SERVICES

Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there. If I make my bed in the grave, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me, even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee, but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand; when I awake, I am still with thee. Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

There's heaven above, and night by night
I look right through its gorgeous roof;
No suns nor moons though e'er so bright
Avail to stop me. Splendor-proof
I keep the brood of stars aloof:
For I intend to get to God,
For 'tis to God I speed so fast;
For in God's breast, my own abode,
Those shoals of dazzling glory passed,
I lay my spirit down at last.
I lie where I have always lain,

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God smiles as he has always smiled;
Ere suns and moons could wax and wane,
Ere stars were thundergirt, or piled
The heavens, God thought on me, his child.

10. Strength in Some Great Agony

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications. If thou, Lord,
shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?
But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest
be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait,
and in his word do I hope. My soul waiteth for
the Lord more than they that watch for the morning:
I say, more than they that watch for the morning.
With him is plenteous redemption.

Oh, may I join the choir invisible
Of those immortal dead who live again
In minds made better by their presence: live
In pulses stirred to generosity,
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn
Of miserable aims that end with self,
In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars,
And with their mild persistence urge men's search
To vaster issues.

So to live is heaven:

To make undying music in the world,
Breathing a beauteous order that controls
With growing sway the growing life of man. . . .

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That better self shall live till human Time
Shall fold its eyelids, and the human sky
Be gathered like a scroll within the tomb,
Unread forever.

 This is life to come,
Which martyred men have made more glorious
For us who strive to follow. May I reach
That purest heaven, — be to other souls
The cup of strength in some great agony,
Enkindle generous ardor, feed pure love,
Beget the smiles that have no cruelty,
Be the sweet presence of a good diffused,
And in diffusion ever more intense.
So shall I join the choir invisible
Whose music is the gladness of the world.

II. The Everlasting Mercy

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies, who satisfieth thy mouth with good things so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide, neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according

TOPICAL READINGS

to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; to such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Oh, yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of ill,
To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt and taints of blood;

That nothing walks with aimless feet;
That not one life shall be destroyed,
Or cast as rubbish to the void,
When God hath made the pile complete.

Behold, we *know* not anything;
I can but *trust* that good shall fall
At last — far off — at last, to all,
And every winter change to spring.

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If a man die, shall he live again?
All the days of my warfare would I wait,
Till my release should come.
But, as for me, I know that my Redeemer liveth,
And at last he will stand up upon the earth:
And after my frame, even this body, is destroyed,
Then without my flesh shall I see God;
Whom I, even I, shall see, on my side,
And mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.
Oh that I knew where I might find him!
That I might come even to his presence!
I would set my cause in order before him.

“ Father of all! ” he urges his strong plea,
“ Thou lovest all: thy erring child may be
Lost to himself, but never lost to thee!

“ All souls are thine; the wings of morning bear
None from that Presence which is everywhere,
Nor hell itself can hide, for thou art there.

“ Through sins of sense, perversities of will,
Through doubt and pain, through guilt and shame
and ill,
Thy pitying eye is on thy creature still.

“ Wilt thou not make, Eternal Source and Goal,
In thy long years, life's broken circle whole,
And change to praise the cry of a lost soul? ”

TOPICAL READINGS

12. The God of My Life

As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts; all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me. Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

‘Where is your God?’ they say:
Answer them, Lord most holy!
Reveal thy secret way
Of visiting the lowly,
Not wrapped in moving cloud,
Or nightly resting fire;
But veiled within the shroud
Of silent, high desire.

FUNERAL SERVICES

Come not in flashing storm,
Or bursting frown of thunder:
Come in the viewless form
Of wakening love and wonder;
In duty grown divine
The restless spirit still;
In sorrows taught to shine
As shadows of thy will.

O God, the pure alone,
E'en in their deep confessing,
Can see thee as their own
And find thy perfect blessing;
Yet to each waiting soul
Speak in thy still, small voice,
Till broken love be whole,
And saddened hearts rejoice.

13. The Mysterious Path to Life Eternal

O strong soul, by what shore
Tarriest thou now? For that force,
Surely, has not been left in vain!
Somewhere, surely, afar,
In the sounding labor-house vast
Of Being, is practised that strength,
Zealous, beneficent, firm!
Still thou performest the word
Of the Spirit in whom thou dost live, —
Prompt, unwearied, as here!

TOPICAL READINGS

Still thou upraisest with zeal
The humble good from the ground,
Sternly represses the bad!
Still, like a trumpet, dost rouse
Those who, with half-opened eyes,
Tread the borderland dim
'Twixt vice and virtue; revivest,
Succorest! This was thy work,
This was thy life upon earth.

But thou wouldst not alone
Be saved, my father! alone
Conquer and come to thy goal,
Leaving the rest in the wild. . . .
Eyes rekindling, and prayers,
Follow your steps as you go.
We fill up the gaps in our files,
Strengthen the wavering lines,
'Stablish, continue our march,
On, to the bound of the waste,
On, to the city of God.

Into the dusk and snow
One fared yesterday.
No man of us may know
By what mysterious way.

He had been a comrade long;
We fain would hold him still;
But, though our will be strong,
There is a stronger Will.

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Beyond the solemn night
He will find the morning dream, —
The summer's kindling light
Beyond the chill snow's gleam.

The clear unfaltering eye,
The inalienable soul,
The calm, high energy, —
They will not fail the goal.

How can I cease to pray for thee? Somewhere
In God's wide universe thou art today.
Can he not reach thee with his tender care?
Can he not hear me when for thee I pray?

Somewhere thou livest and hast need of him,
Somewhere thy soul sees higher heights to climb,
And somewhere, too, there may be valleys dim
Which thou must pass to reach the heights sublime.

Then all the more because thou canst not hear
Poor human words of blessing, will I pray,
O true brave heart, God bless thee, wheresoe'er
In God's wide universe thou art today!

14. A Man of Integrity

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the
counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way
of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But

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his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth its fruit in its season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand. Depart from evil and do good, and dwell for evermore. For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever. The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not; yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.

Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace. The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble. The Lord shall help them, and deliver them, because they trust in him.

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A ruddy drop of manly blood
The surging sea outweighs;
The world uncertain comes and goes, —
The lover rooted stays.

I fancied he was fled, —
And, after many a year,
Glowed unexhausted kindliness,
Like daily sunrise there.

My careful heart was free again.
O friend, my bosom said,
Through thee alone the sky is arched,
Through thee the rose is red.

All things through thee take nobler form,
And look beyond the earth.
The mill-round of our fate appears
A sun-path in thy worth.

Me too thy nobleness has taught
To master my despair;
The fountains of my hidden life
Are through thy friendship fair.

The sun set, but set not his hope.
Stars rose: his faith was earlier up.
Fixed on the enormous galaxy,
Deeper and older seemed his eye;
And matched his sufferance sublime
The taciturnity of time.

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He spoke, and words more soft than rain
Brought the Age of Gold again.
His action won such reverence sweet
As hid all measure of the feat.

15. A Virtuous Woman

A virtuous woman, who can find?
For her price is far above rubies.
The heart of her husband trusteth in her,
And he shall have no lack of gain.
She doeth him good and not evil
All the days of her life.
She seeketh wool and flax,
And worketh willingly with her hands.

She is like the merchant-ships:
She bringeth her food from afar.
She riseth also while it is yet night,
And giveth meat to her household,
And their task to her maidens.
She considereth a field, and buyeth it:
With the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.
She girdeth her loins with strength,
And maketh strong her arms.
She perceiveth that her merchandise is profitable.

Her lamp goeth not out by night;
She layeth her hands to the distaff,
And her hands hold the spindle.

FUNERAL SERVICES

She spreadeth out her hands to the poor;
Yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.
She is not afraid of the snow for her household,
For all her household are clothed with scarlet.
She maketh for herself carpets of tapestry;
Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
Her husband is known in the gates,
When he sitteth among the elders of the land.

She maketh linen garments and selleth them;
And delivereth girdles unto the merchants.
Strength and dignity cover her as a garment,
And she laugheth at the time to come.
She openeth her mouth with wisdom;
And the law of kindness is on her tongue.
She looketh well to the ways of her household;
And eateth not the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up, and call her blessed;
Her husband also, and he praiseth her, saying, —
Many daughters have done virtuously,
But thou excellest them all.

Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain;
But a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be
praised.
Give her of the fruit of her hands;
And let her works praise her in the gates.

TOPICAL READINGS

The old assuring miracle
Is fresh as heretofore;
And earth takes up its parable
Of life from death once more.

For all her quiet life flowed on
As meadow streamlets flow,
Where fresher green reveals alone
The noiseless ways they go.

Her path shall brighten more and more
Unto the perfect day;
She cannot fail of peace who bore
Such peace with her away.

How reverent in our midst she stood,
Or knelt in grateful praise!
What grace of Christian womanhood
Was in her household ways!

She kept her line of rectitude
With love's unconscious ease;
Her kindly instincts understood
All gentle courtesies.

The dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls;
The Gospel of a life like hers
Is more than books or scrolls.

FUNERAL SERVICES

From scheme and creed the light goes out,
The saintly fact survives;
The blessed Master none can doubt
Revealed in holy lives.

16. Grief for a Little Lad

The child was very sick, and David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. And the elders of his house arose, and went to him to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them.

And it came to pass, on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead?

But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the Lord, and worshiped. Then he came to his own house; and, when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat.

Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? Thou didst fast and weep for

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the child, while it was yet alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread. And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

When I consider life and its few years —
A wisp of fog betwixt us and the sun;
A call to battle, — and the battle done
Ere the last echo dies within our ears;
A rose, choked in the grass; an hour of fears;
The gusts that past a darkening shore do beat;
The burst of music down an unlistening street, —
I wonder at the idleness of tears.
Ye old, old dead, and ye of yesternight,
Chieftains and bards, and keepers of the sheep,
By every cup of sorrow that you had,
Loose me from tears, — and make me see aright
How each hath back what once he stayed to weep:
Homer his sight, David his little lad.

17. Soldiers of the Republic

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work thou didst in their days, in the times of old; how thou didst drive out the nations with thy hand, and plantedst them; how thou didst afflict the peoples and cast them out. For they

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got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou wast favorable unto them.

Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter dark sayings of old, which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children; that they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments. Our fathers trusted in thee; they trusted and thou didst deliver them. They cried unto thee, and were delivered; they trusted in thee and were not confounded. When they were but a few men in number, yea, very few and strangers in the land; when they went from one nation to another, from one kingdom to another people; he suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reprov'd kings for their sakes, saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm. He brought forth his people with joy, and his chosen with gladness; and gave them

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the lands of the nations, and they inherited the labor
of the peoples, that they might observe his statutes
and keep his laws. Praise ye the Lord.

Strew all their graves with flowers;
They for their country died,
And freely gave their lives for ours,
Their country's hope and pride.

Bring flowers to deck each sod,
Where rests their sacred dust;
Though gone from earth, they live to God,
Their everlasting trust.

Fearless in Freedom's cause,
They suffered, toiled and bled,
And died, obedient to her laws,
By truth and conscience led.

Oft as the year returns,
She o'er their graves shall weep,
And wreath with flowers their funeral urns,
Their memory dear to keep.

Bring flowers of joyous spring
To deck each soldier's grave,
And summer's fragrant roses bring, —
They died our land to save.

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18. From Youth to Old Age

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion. Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort. Thou hast given commandment to save me, for thou art my rock and my fortress. Thou art my hope, O Lord God; thou hast been my trust from my youth.

Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honor all the day. Cast me not off in the time of old age; and forsake me not when my strength faileth. O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help. I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.

My mouth shall show forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the number of my days. I will go forward in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.

O God, thou hast taught me from my youth; and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have showed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come. Thy righteousness also, O God, is very high, for thou hast done great things. O God, who is like unto thee!

Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand. Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none

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upon earth that I desire besides thee. My flesh and my heart faileth; but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever. It is good for me to draw near to God. I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works.

19. Remember Thy Creator

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, or ever the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; or ever the sun, and the light, and the moon, and the stars, be darkened, and the clouds return after the rain: in the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, and the doors shall be shut in the street; when the sound of the grinding is low, and one shall rise up at the voice of a bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low; yea, they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way; and the almond tree shall blossom, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets; or ever the silver cord be loosened, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel be broken at the cistern; then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

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20. I Shall Live Eternally

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; because his mercy endureth for ever. Let them now that fear the Lord say, that his mercy endureth for ever. I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do unto me? It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.

The Lord is my strength and my song, and is become my salvation. The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the dwelling places of the righteous: the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly. I shall not die but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord hath chastened me sore; but he hath not given me over unto death. Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord, into which the righteous shall enter. I will praise thee; for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee; thou art my God, I will exalt thee. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever.

SELECTED POETRY

1. A Salute to Eternity

I stand upon the summit of my years.
Behind, the toil, the camp, the march, the strife,
The wandering and the desert. Vast, afar,
Beyond this weary way, behold! The Sea!
The sea o'erswept by clouds and winds and wings,
By thoughts and wishes manifold, whose breath
Is freshness, and whose mighty pulse is peace.

Palter no question of the dim Beyond.
Cut loose the bark; such voyage itself is rest, —
Majestic motion, unimpeded scope,
A widening heaven, a current without care.

Eternity! Deliverance, Promise, Course!
Time-tired souls salute thee from the shore.

2. A Father's Faith

Wilt thou not ope thy heart to know
What rainbows teach, and sunsets show?
Verdict which accumulates
From lengthening scroll of human fates,
Voice of earth to earth returned,
Prayers of saints that inly burned, —

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Saying, *What is excellent,
As God lives, is permanent;
Hearts are dust, hearts' loves remain;
Heart's love will meet thee again.*
Revere the Maker; fetch thine eye
Up to his style and manners of the sky.

Not of adamant and gold
Built he heaven stark and cold;
No, but a nest of bending reeds,
Flowering grass and scented weeds;
Or like a traveler's fleeing tent,
Or bow above the tempest bent;
Built of tears and sacred flames,
And virtue reaching to its aims;
Built of furtherance and pursuing,
Not of spent deeds, but of doing.

Silent rushes the swift Lord
Through ruined systems still restored,
Broadsowing, bleak and void to bless,
Plants with worlds the wilderness
Waters with tears of ancient sorrow
Apples of Eden ripe tomorrow.
House and tenant go to ground,
Lost in God, in Godhead found.

SELECTED POETRY

3. They Softly Walk

They are not gone who pass
Beyond the clasp of hand,
Out from the strong embrace.
They are but come so close
We need not grope with hands,
Nor look to see, nor try
To catch the sound of feet.
They have put off their shoes
Softly to walk by day
Within our thoughts, to tread
At night our dream-led paths
Of sleep.

They are not lost who find
The sunset gate, the goal
Of all their faithful years.
Not lost are they who reach
The summit of their climb,
The peak above the clouds
And storms. They are not lost
Who find the light of sun
And stars and God.

4. If All the Skies

If all the skies were sunshine,
Our faces would be fain
To feel once more upon them
The cooling splash of rain.

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If all the world were music,
Our hearts would often long
For one sweet strain of silence
To break the endless song.

If life were always merry,
Our souls would seek relief
And rest from weary laughter
In the quiet arms of grief.

5. He Giveth More

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase;
To added affliction he addeth his mercy,
To multiplied trials, his multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half
done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

His love has no limit, his grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;
For out of his infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth and giveth and giveth again.

He giveth *more* grace. *James 4:6.*

He *increaseth* strength. *Isaiah 40:29.*

Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be *multiplied*. *Jude 21.*

SELECTED POETRY

6. Convinced by Sorrow

“There is no God,” the foolish saith,
But none, “There is no sorrow.”
And nature oft the cry of faith,
In bitter need will borrow:
Eyes which the preacher could not school,
By wayside graves are raised,
And lips say, “God be pitiful,”
Who ne’er said, “God be praised.”
Be pitiful, O God!

7. Yesterday’s Grief

The rain that fell a yesterday is ruby on the roses,
Silver on the poplar’s leaf and gold on willow-
stem;
The grief that chanced a yesterday is silence that
encloses
Holy loves where time and change shall never trouble
them.
The rain that fell a yesterday makes all the hillside
glisten,
Coral on the laurel and beryl on the grass;
The grief that chanced a yesterday has taught the soul
to listen
For whispers of eternity in all the winds that pass.
O Faint-of-heart, storm-beaten, this rain will gleam
tomorrow

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Flame within the columbine and jewels on the thorn,
Heaven in the forget-me-not; though sorrow now be
sorrow,
Yet sorrow shall be beauty in the magic of the morn.

8. The Kingdom of God

I say to thee, do thou repeat
To the first man thou mayest meet
In lane, highway, or open street —

That he and we and all men move
Under a canopy of love,
As broad as the blue sky above;

That doubt and trouble, fear and pain
And anguish, all are shadows vain,
That death itself shall not remain;

That weary deserts we may tread,
A dreary labyrinth may thread,
Thro' dark ways underground be led;

Yet, if we will one Guide obey,
The dreariest path, the darkest way
Shall issue out in heavenly day;

And we, on divers shores now cast,
Shall meet, our perilous voyage past,
All in our Father's house at last.

SELECTED POETRY

And ere thou leave him, say thou this,
Yet one word more, — they only miss
The winning of that final bliss,

Who will not count it true that Love,
Blessing, not cursing, rules above,
And that *in it* we live and move.

And one thing further make him know,
That to believe these things are so,
This firm faith never to forgo,

Despite of all which seems at strife
With blessing, all with curses rife,
That this *is* blessing, this *is* life.

9. I Have but Thee, My Father

When on my day of life the night is falling,
And, in the winds from unsunned spaces blown,
I hear far voices out of darkness calling
My feet to paths unknown,

Thou, who hast made my home of life so pleasant,
Leave not its tenant when its walls decay;
O Love Divine, O Helper ever present,
Be thou my strength and stay!

Be near me when all else is from me drifting:
Earth, sky, home's pictures, days of shade and
shine,
And kindly voices to my own uplifting
The love which answers mine.

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I have but thee, my Father! Let thy spirit
Be with me then to comfort and uphold;
No gate of pearl, no branch of palm I merit,
Nor street of shining gold.

Suffice it if — my good and ill unreckoned,
And both forgiven through thine abounding
grace —
I find myself by hands familiar beckoned
Unto my fitting place.

Some humble door among the many mansions,
Some sheltering shade where sin and striving cease,
And flows forever, through heaven's green expan-
sions,
The river of thy peace.

There, from the music round about me stealing,
I fain would learn the new and holy song,
And find at last, beneath thy trees of healing,
The life for which I long.

The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

THE NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING CONCERNING LIFE ETERNAL

1. The Bread of Life

Jesus said, Labor not for the food which perisheth, but for that food which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you; for him hath God the Father sealed. Then said they unto him, What shall we do that we may work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

They said therefore unto him, What sign showest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? What dost thou work? Our fathers did eat manna in the desert: as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. Then said Jesus unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

Then said they unto him, Master, evermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life. He that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. This is the

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will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day. No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Verily, verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I give for the life of the world. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead; he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. It is the spirit which giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

2. I Have Overcome the World

Jesus said, I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive,

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because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come unto you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more. But ye see me; and because I live, ye shall live also.

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

When the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me. And ye shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning. But now I go my way to

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him that sent me. But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you. But if I depart, I will send him unto you. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.

3. This Is Life Eternal

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come: glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee; as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world. Thine they were, and thou gavest them me, and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that

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I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

I pray for them. I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine, and all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

4. The Resurrection of Jesus

When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple. He went to Pilate and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph beheld where he was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested on the sabbath day according to the commandment.

Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away

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from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments; and as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen. Remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered his words, and returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

5. The Gospel of the Resurrection

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand, by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures; and that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve. After that he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain unto this present time, but some are fallen asleep. After that he was seen of James, then of all the apostles. And last

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of all, he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive; but every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; and afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come? Foolish one! That which thou sowest is not quickened except it die. That which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain. But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed its own body. So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. As we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Behold I show you a mystery: we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. When this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass

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the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

6. The Hope of Life Eternal

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have declared unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

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Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God! Therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be. But we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

7. To Him that Overcometh

Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. Fear not; I am the first and the last. I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of the grave and of death.

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock. If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father in his throne.

After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations and kindreds and

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peoples and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And one of the elders spake, saying unto me, Who are these which are arrayed in white robes? And whence came they? And I said, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, 'These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple. And he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

8. I Make All Things New

I saw a great white throne, and him that sat upon it, from whose face the earth and heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God. And the books were opened, and another book was opened which is the book of life. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

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And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write, for these words are true and faithful.

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

9. Our Eternal Home

He carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. And her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. And he that talked with me had a

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golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth. And he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them that are saved shall walk in the light of it; and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day, and there shall be no night there. They shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

AN ORDER OF PRAYER

A Call to Prayer:

THE Lord hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee; send thee help from the sanctuary and strengthen thee out of Zion; remember all thy offerings, and accept thy sacrifices; grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel. We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners; the Lord fulfil all thy petitions. Now I know that the Lord saveth his anointed; he will hear from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand. We will remember the name of the Lord our God. Amen.

Let us pray:

O GRACIOUS Father, enable us thy servants to bow before thee in humble submission to thy divine appointment. Draw us, we pray thee, unto thyself, that while we mourn the loss of him we have loved so much, we may obtain consolation in the fuller knowledge of that love of thine which first gave him to this world and provided for us so great an

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earthly blessing. Grant that, when the journey of this life is ended, we may find him again. Grant us thy abundant mercy and a joyful entrance into thy glorious presence; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, who art the Strength of thy saints and who redeemest the souls of thy servants, we bless thy name for all those who have died in the Lord, and who now rest from their labors, having received the end of their faith, even the salvation of their souls. Especially we call to remembrance thy lovingkindness and thy tender mercies to this thy servant. For all thy goodness that withheld not *his* portion in the joys of this earthly life, and for thy guiding hand along the way of *his* pilgrimage; we give thee thanks and praise. Especially we bless thee for thy grace that kindled in *his* heart the love of thy dear name; that enabled *him* to fight the good fight, to endure unto the end, and to obtain the victory; yea, to become more than conqueror, through him that loveth us. We magnify thy holy name that *his* trials and temptations being ended, sickness and death being passed, with all the dangers and difficulties of this mortal life, *his* spirit is at home in thy presence, at whose right hand dwelleth eternal peace. And grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that we who rejoice in the triumph of thy saints may profit by their example, that, becoming followers of their faith and patience, we also may enter with them into an inheritance incorruptible and

AN ORDER OF PRAYER

undefiled, and that fade not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD our Lord, the stay of all them that put their trust in thee, wherever thou leadest we would go, for thy ways are perfect wisdom and love. Even when we walk through the dark valley, thy light can shine into our hearts and guide us safely through the night of sorrow. Be thou our Friend, and we need ask no more in heaven or earth, for thou art the Comfort of all who trust in thee, the Help and Defense of all who hope in thee. O Lord, we would be thine; let us never fall away from thee. We would accept all things from thy hand without murmuring, for whatever thou dost is right. Blend our wills with thine, and then we need fear no evil nor death itself, for all things must work together for our good. Lord, keep us in thy love and truth, comfort us with thy light, and guide us by thy Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEAVENLY Father, hear our voice out of the deep sorrow which thou, in thy mysterious wisdom, hast brought upon us. We know that thou art with us, and that whatsoever cometh is a revelation of thine unchanging love. Thou knowest what is best for us. Thy will be done. Thou gavest and thou hast taken away; blessed be thy name. O keep our souls from all the temptations of this hour of mourning, that we may neither sorrow as those without hope, nor lose our

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trust in thee; but that the darker this earthly scene becometh the lighter may be our vision of that eternal world where all shall live before thee. And grant that the members of this household, O Lord, still being upon earth, may be steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and may so pass through this troubled world that finally they may come to the land of everlasting life, there to live with thee, world without end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, we bow with reverence before thee: remembering that thou, who orderest all things according to thine own will in heaven and earth, art also our loving Father, who dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men, but dost correct us, that we may be partakers of thy holiness.

Blessed be thy name, O God, that in thine unspeakable love thou didst send thy well-beloved Son into this world to be our Saviour. And for his sake we beseech thee to have pity upon us. Give us grace to lay to heart this and every warning of thy providence. Cleanse us from all our iniquities: and sanctify us by thy Holy Spirit, that whether we live, we may live unto the Lord, or whether we die, we may die unto the Lord; whether we live or die, may we be the Lord's.

Father of mercies and God of all comfort, look down in tender love and pity upon thy bereaved servants, so that, while they mourn, they may not mur-

AN ORDER OF PRAYER

mur or faint; but, remembering all thy mercies, thy promises, and thy grace they may confidently trust themselves in thy hands, to be taught and guided by thee. Convert them wholly to thyself, and fill their sorrowing hearts with thy love, that they may cleave more closely to thee, who bringest life out of death, and who canst turn their grief into eternal joy. Amen.

FATHER Almighty, God Everlasting, Spirit Eternal, we bow before thee, for only thy wisdom can know our need and only thy compassion can measure our sorrow. We do not ask that we may understand the mysteries of life and death, but we pray that thy light may guide us and thy strength sustain us. In thy keeping we trust the spirit of him whose earthly work is now ended. He asked of thee life, and thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever. He asked of thee strength, and, by thy gift, he has put off that which is mortal and has put on immortality. He walked in shadow, and thou hast called him into the light of that day which knows no night. O how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee! Help us also to walk in trust and to go forward without fear, till the path of life shall bring us to the life eternal. We ask it because thy love is from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

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ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt grant their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTIONS

THE Lord bless thee, and keep thee; the Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, this day and evermore. Amen.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God our Father, and the communion of his Holy Spirit be with you all, now and for ever. Amen.

THE peace of God which passeth all understanding, that peace which this world can neither give nor take away, abide in your hearts now and for ever. Amen.

NOW the God of peace, who brought again from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep with the blood of an eternal covenant, even our Lord Jesus, make you perfect in every good thing to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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NOW unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

THE SERVICE AT THE GRAVE

(Or in a crematory chapel)

On arriving at the grave, the minister should, if convenient, provide himself with flowers which he will scatter upon the casket at the appropriate time in the service, with the words then to be spoken, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." When the casket has been brought to the grave, it should be lowered to its place. These words may be read by the minister while the casket is being lowered, or as soon as it has been lowered, to its place:

A Declaration of Hope

I AM the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep; that ye sorrow not, even as the others which have no hope. For if we

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believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Committing the Body to the Ground

FORASMUCH as it has come to pass, within the divine providence of the world, that the soul of this child of God has departed from this earthly life and has entered into the unseen world, we therefore commit the body to the ground,*

earth to earth,

ashes to ashes,

dust to dust,

in the living hope that as *he* has borne the image of the earthly *he* shall also bear the image of the heavenly, and shall live for ever in the glorious presence of God.

The dust returns to the earth as it was, but the spirit returns unto God who gave it.

None of us liveth to himself, and none dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; or whether we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

** If the body is to be cremated these words are omitted, and the minister says, "we therefore return the body to the elements, in the living hope" etc.*

THE SERVICE AT THE GRAVE

An Order of Prayer

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity: we give thee hearty thanks for that it hath pleased thee to deliver this our brother out of the miseries of this sinful world, beseeching thee, that it may please thee, of thy gracious goodness, shortly to accomplish the number of thine elect, and to hasten thy kingdom; that we, with all those that are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thine eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OMERCIFUL God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die: and whosoever liveth and believeth in him shall not die eternally; who also hath taught us by his holy apostle St. Paul not to sorrow, as men without hope, for them that sleep in him: we meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that, when we shall depart this life, we may rest in him, as our hope is this our brother doth; and that, at the general resurrection in the last

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day, we may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, "Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world": grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. Amen.

Benediction

NOW the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Or

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

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